

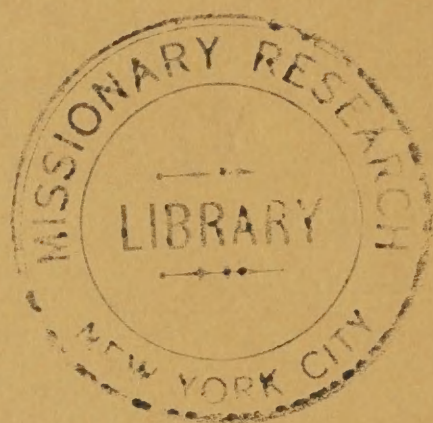
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# "AND THE WOMEN ALSO"

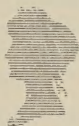
*Luke 23:55*





# "AND THE WOMEN ALSO"

*Luke 23:55*



## *A Brief History of Lutheran Women's Work in the*

Women's Missionary Conference of the Joint  
Synod of Ohio - - - - - 1914-1931

General Federation of Lutheran Women's  
Organization of the Iowa Synod - 1926-1931

Women's Missionary Federation of the  
American Lutheran Church - - 1931-1950

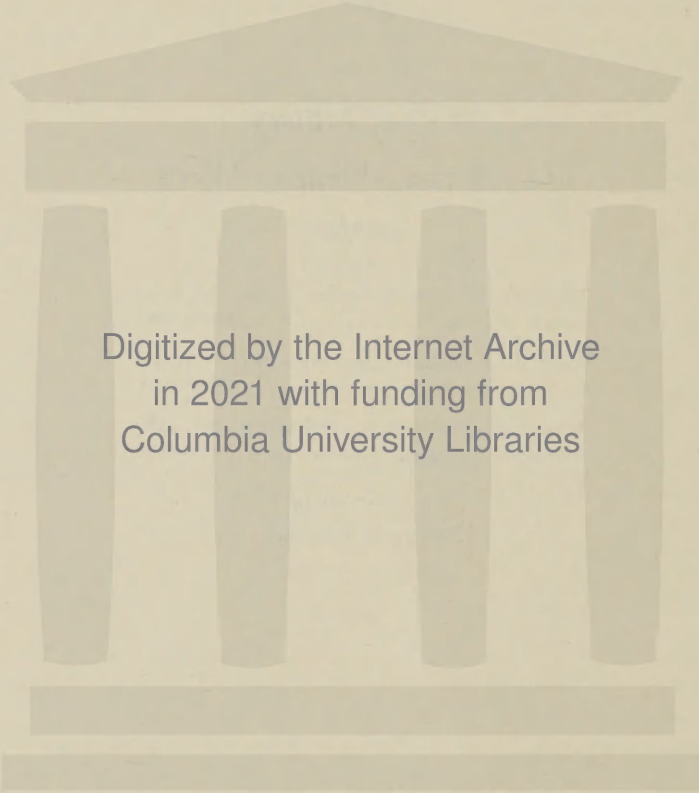
as compiled by  
Katharine Lehmann

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY FEDERATION

OF THE

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

57 EAST MAIN STREET, COLUMBUS 15, OHIO



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## THE WOMEN'S MISSIONARY CONFERENCE OF THE JOINT SYNOD OF OHIO

The question has often been asked: "How did our Women's Missionary Conference first come into being?" The idea originated at Sandusky, Ohio, during the convention of the Men's Missionary Conference in February, 1913. Much impressed by the proceedings of this convention, the thought came, "Why cannot the women of our Synod have meetings like this, and help to further the missionary enterprises of our Church?"

The woman to whom this thought came mentioned it to her husband, and after talking it over at length, it was mentioned to the resolutions committee. When the resolutions were read near the close of the convention one of the recommendations was "That the women of our Synod be encouraged to form a Conference of their own." The recommendation met with some opposition, but carried, and the Fremont Local Conference was requested to prepare plans with that end in view. At the next meeting of that conference the following propositions were adopted.

*Resolved:—*

"That the women of our congregations arrange their conference on the general lines which have made the men's conferences so profitable and proper, as follows: 1 — The conferences not to be official, but free; 2 — Every congregation desiring to take part to be entitled to two women delegates; 3— The general membership of our churches to be welcome at the meetings; 4 — Meetings to be held once per year; 5 — Meetings to continue a day and a half, four sessions; 6 — All resolutions of the conferences to be guarded against any conflict with regular congregational and synodical resolutions.

"That four of our women's missionary societies (one each from the Northern, English, Eastern, and Western district) be asked to appoint two members each, these eight members to form a joint committee which is to receive invitations, determine time and place of the first conference, and arrange a suitable program.

"That at least one-half of the papers read at the women's conference be by pastors, and that the speakers at the divine service held at the conferences be ordained ministers.

"That at each conference an executive committee be appointed to arrange for the following conference." (Some of these resolutions are no longer in force among us.)

The societies selected to appoint delegates to the first joint committee meeting were: St. Paul's, Toledo; Grace, Fremont; St. Paul's, Massillon; Christ, Columbus. The place of the meeting of the committee to be Fremont. When this meeting was held, the following committee on arrangements was appointed: Mrs. W. C. Adams, Toledo; Mrs. E. D. Dillenschneider, Fremont; Miss Emma Kieffer, Columbus; Mrs. E. L. Schomberg, Toledo; Mrs. W. E. Tressel, Fremont; Mrs. J. C. Schacht, Columbus.

In accordance with the arrangements of this committee, that hitherto unheard-of thing took place: *The first Women's Missionary Conference* was held

in St. Paul's Church, Toledo, Ohio, Wednesday and Thursday, September 24-25, 1913. Three sessions were held. Mrs. C. H. Herrnstein presided at the first session, Mrs. E. L. Schomberg at the second, and Mrs. J. C. Schacht at the third. Mrs. J. Sittler was chosen as secretary of the convention. Divine services were held Wednesday evening. For the first time in the history of Joint Synod women read missionary papers and discussed missionary topics at a public meeting. A fine spirit of zeal and enthusiasm prevailed, and what had hitherto been but a dream was seen nearing fulfilment. Upon the recommendation of the resolutions committee an executive committee was elected to arrange for the next convention, and to prepare for a formal organization. This committee consisted of the following women: Mrs. J. H. Kuhlman, Loudonville, chairman; Mrs. E. Dillenschneider, Fremont; Mrs. Perry Davis, Columbus; Mrs. George F. Ulch, Fremont. To the untiring efforts of Mrs. E. L. Schomberg and Mrs. W. C. Adams, as well as to the courtesy of Rev. and Mrs. W. E. Schuette, most of the success of the Toledo meeting must be attributed.

Upon invitation from the Martin Luther Church, Canton, Ohio, Rev. G. M. Schmucker, pastor, the *second* convention of the conference was held in that congregation September 22-24, 1914. Here the formal organization, from which dates the real existence of our conference, took place. What had begun as an experiment became an established reality. The new constitution, presented by the executive committee, was adopted; and when the election of officers took place, Mrs. J. H. Kuhlman, the woman in whose mind the idea had originated at Sandusky in 1913, was honored by being elected the first president. Other officers elected were: Mrs. Perry Davis, vice-president; Mrs. E. T. Korner, corresponding secretary; Miss Katharine Lehmann, recording secretary; Mrs. S. Q. Parks, financial secretary; Mrs. Arthur Schmidt, treasurer.

Since the organization was new, and many problems were to be solved, it was determined to hold the next meeting the following year. After that, however, meetings were to be held biennially.

It was at this meeting that the first movement was made toward organizing district conferences. All the societies in Synod were advised to form such districts, following as much as possible, the geographical boundaries of the various synodical conferences.

Pursuant to the resolution at Canton, the *third* meeting was held October 5th, 6th, and 7th, 1915, in Loy Auditorium, Columbus, Ohio. Here, at this School of Prophets, erstwhile the seat of strictest conservatism, as far as our sex was concerned, our women upset all time-honored precedents and prejudices, and raised their voices in counsel and debate, discussing most ably the great missionary problems confronting our Church. It was reported that since the last meeting two districts, the Columbus and the Fremont, had been formed, and that monthly missionary programs had been published, and were being used by many of our societies. The total registration at this convention was 383, representing 70 cities and towns, 87 congregations, and six states.

The *fourth* convention of the Women's Missionary Conference was held in Trinity Church, Circleville, Ohio, Rev. J. G. Troutman, pastor, October 31-November 2, 1916. The following officers were elected: Mrs. J. H. Kuhlman, president; Mrs. John Sheetz, vice-president; Mrs. George Ulch, corresponding secretary; Miss Katharine Lehmann, recording secretary; Mrs. Edward Roess, financial secretary, and Mrs. Arthur Schmidt, treasurer. The register showed



258 delegates and visitors in attendance from outside of Circleville, representing 42 towns and five states.

The *Lutheran Standard* said of the address delivered at this convention by Dr. C. H. L. Schuette, president of the Joint Synod:

"It is a tribute to our Lutheran women that this leader in the Church gave to us, out of the fullness of his store, so much help, advice, and inspiration. He made clear that the office of the Christian ministry is not confined to the men in the pulpits, but is common to every man, woman, and child who bears the name of Christian.

"The speaker dwelt on the need of real sacrifice and the lack of it. A pertinent question was put which, although it received no answer, must have sent every woman away thoughtful: 'How many of you women are willing to give for missions the price of a bonnet?'

"Dr. Schuette urged the Conference to take up some special work and to go at it with might and main."

At this convention it was reported that three districts had been added during the year; the Eastern Ohio, organized at Canton; the Western Pennsylvania, organized at Pittsburgh, and the Auglaize.

The *fifth* convention of the Women's Missionary Conference convened at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Massillon, Ohio, Rev. F. B. Hax, pastor, October 28-30, 1919 — after a lapse of three years on account of the epidemic of influenza. During this interval however the various districts and individual societies had been active in the work of the kingdom. The following officers were elected: Mrs. J. H. Kuhlman, president; Mrs. E. T. Korner, vice-president; Mrs. Eyman, recording secretary; Mrs. Gaither, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Yetter, financial secretary, and Mrs. G. F. Zininger, treasurer. Mrs. Eyman was put in charge of the Junior work which the Conference resolved to undertake. At the Thursday morning session the Life and Memorial Membership Fund was established, the working plans to be arranged by Mrs. J. H. Troutman and the executive committee. Mrs. Troutman continued at the head of this work until 1926.

At the service on Wednesday evening President O. Mees of Capital University gave an inspiring address on the subject, "What Can Our Women Do For the Institutions of Synod?" The impression made by this address may be judged by the fact that in the next session a motion was unanimously carried, "That Conference make an organized effort to raise funds for the building of a girls' dormitory at Capital University." However the permission later given by Synod was so vague, and the expressions of officials so non-committal, that we did not feel justified in going ahead with the work at that time. There were 92 delegates and 57 visitors registered at this meeting, and the Bucyrus District was received into the Conference.

February, 1921, marked the opening of the Women's Department in the *Lutheran Standard*. Through the courtesy of the Publication Board two pages of the first issue of each month were placed at our disposal. The first editor was Miss Katharine Lehmann, who was succeeded after one year by Mrs. C. H. Herrnstein.

The *sixth* convention of our General Conference was held at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Butler, Pa., Rev. Wm. Schramm, pastor, November 15-17, 1921. Mrs. J. H. Kuhlman, president of the General Conference since its in-

ception and organization, felt that she could no longer assume the burdens of this office, and therefore would not permit her name to be voted on for president. The following officers were elected: Miss Katharine Lehmann, president; Mrs. C. E. Krumm, vice-president; Mrs. W. G. Eyman, recording secretary; Mrs. John Atzinger, corresponding secretary; Mrs. C. E. Cronenwett, financial secretary; Mrs. Wm. H. Goehring, treasurer. The California District was received into the Conference at this time.

It had always been the desire of the Conference to undertake some special work, something our very own. Consequently at this convention it was resolved that we undertake the task of building a hospital in India. This proposal was received with much enthusiasm, and all delegates promised their loyal support. In the early part of 1922 plans were made for a Dollar Drive for the India Hospital. This drive netted nearly \$15,000.

The *seventh* convention was held in the Good Hope Lutheran Church, Bucyrus, Ohio, Rev. O. A. Bertram, pastor, Oct. 31-Nov. 2, 1922.

At this convention the Miami Valley and Detroit districts were admitted to the Conference. The staff of officers remained the same, with one exception, Miss Mary Schodde was elected treasurer.

During 1922 the Thankoffering Department began to operate under the capable leadership of Mrs. W. C. Moore. It has proved a valuable plan for gathering the free-will offerings of the women of Joint Synod.

At the Bucyrus convention Mrs. H. B. Adams was elected to the newly-created office of chairman of the Literature Department. Mrs. C. E. Krumm was chosen to conduct the work of the new Extension Department.

During 1922 Joint Synod agreed that the Women's Missionary Conference should have three representatives on the boards of Mars and Wernle Orphans' Homes, as advisory members. Mrs. W. H. Goehring of Butler, Pa., was elected chairman of the Mars Home Committee; Mrs. Oscar Tressel of Richmond, Ind., chairman of the Wernle Home Committee. Both have rendered faithful and valuable service.

The *eighth* convention, held in Grace Church, Columbus, Ohio, Rev. Golladay, pastor, October 28-30, 1924, was in the nature of a jubilee, being the tenth anniversary of the Women's Missionary Conference. Congratulations and greetings were extended by:

Dr. C. H. L. Schuette, retiring president of Joint Synod;  
 Rev. Em. Poppen, vice-president of Joint Synod;  
 Rev. A. Dorbier, manager of the Lutheran Book Concern;  
 Dr. E. Pfeiffer, president of the Foreign Mission Board;  
 Rev. A. C. Schiff, president of the Home Mission Board;  
 Rev. Chas. Pflueger, of the Columbus Inner Mission Society.  
 Mrs. J. H. Kuhlman gave the history of our first decade in a splendid paper.

An outstanding report was that of the Extension Department, showing an increase in membership from 6,165 to 11,055 in two years. Three new districts were received: Guttenberg, Atlantic, and Southern Indiana. During 1924 the Department of India Lace was organized, with Miss Ottilia Braun as chairman. Mrs. George Ulch became chairman of the Junior Department, succeeding Mrs. Eyman. Mrs. E. L. Schomberg was elected to organize and head the Statistical Department. Mrs. J. H. Kuhlman was elected vice-president; Mrs. Theo. Stellhorn, general treasurer; Mrs. Paul Adams, financial secretary;



Mrs. C. E. Cronenwett, treasurer of the India Hospital fund; Miss Marie zum Mallen was chosen editor of the pages newly allotted to us in the *Kirchenzeitung*.

The decision to pay the full salary of one of our colored teachers in the South, Mrs. Nesbitt, dates from this convention; as also does "Thread Day," now known as "India Lace School Day."

The support of Rev. Floyd Kantzer was assumed at this time and continued through his six years of preparation as medical missionary. Mrs. J. H. Troutman, however, assumed the greater part of this obligation. Thanks are due also to Rev. Em. Poppen who assisted greatly by donating the proceeds of his illustrated lecture on "Our Women's Work."

The *ninth* meeting of the Conference was held at Grove City, Ohio, in St. John's Church, Rev. Em. Poppen, pastor, October 26-28, 1926.

Reports showed that the goal of \$75,000 for the Hospital in India had been reached in 1925.

Our second large project was undertaken at this convention, namely, the establishment of a Parsonage Building Fund of \$75,000, to be paid at the rate of not less than \$20,000 per biennium. The fund is to be administered by Synod. The purchase of the site for the Kodaikanal Hostel for our missionaries' children in India was adopted as the work for our Junior Mission Bands, one thousand shares to be sold at ten dollars each.

Conference also voted to pay for equipment of the kitchen in the Girls' Dormitory at Capital University, and gave \$5,000 to mission work among the Mexicans in Texas.

Mrs. Frank Snyder was elected chairman of the Junior Department. Mrs. Otto Albrecht succeeded Mrs. Troutman as chairman of Life and In Memoriam Department. The interest on the Life and In Memoriam Fund was at this time assigned to pay part salary of Miss Irene Mellenbruch, mission worker among the Mexicans in Texas. The registration at this convention was the largest on record, 407 names on the roster.

The *tenth* convention, October 30 to November 1, 1928, held in St. Paul's Church, Toledo, Ohio, Dr. L. H., F. O., and H. F. Schuh, pastors, was notable for several reasons:—Four new districts were reported: the Texas, Chicago, Wisconsin East, and Wisconsin West. (Shortly after the convention, word was received that a group of women's societies in Nebraska had organized.) Every district but one was represented, bringing together women from eleven states.

The Executive Committee of the General Federation of Lutheran Women's Organizations of the Iowa Synod was present, bringing greetings. A resolution was drawn up by this committee and the Executive Committee of the Conference to the Joint Commission on Merger, asking the official sanction of that body for the prospective merger of our women's organizations.

The Department of Special Needs was instituted with Mrs. J. Atzinger in charge. The purpose of this department is to take care of the distribution of special gifts to missionaries, orphans' and old folks' homes, etc.

Mrs. Dan Knies was elected Chairman of India Lace Department. The office of full-time salaried president and field secretary was established and Miss Katharine Lehmann elected to the position.

In addition to carrying the Parsonage Building Fund, substantial support (\$5700) was again voted for Mexican missions; a grant made for equipment of kitchen and living room in the Girls' Dormitory at Luther College, Regina,

Sask., Canada, and the purchase price of the altar and a set of covers, for Grace Church, Washington, D. C., authorized as the gift of the Women's Missionary Conference to this representative Lutheran Church in the national capital.

The *eleventh* convention of the Women's Missionary Conference was held at Baltimore, Md., in Grace Church, Rev. C. G. Wolf, pastor, Oct. 28-30, 1930. This first attempt to meet in the East was rewarded by a registration of 329 women from twelve states.

Mrs. Fred Poppen of Toledo, O., for the women of the Iowa Synod, extended greetings and expressed the belief that the anticipated merger will mean much in the extension of the Master's kingdom. Mrs. R. E. Knueppel of Milwaukee, Wis., represented the women of the Buffalo Synod, stating that they too are looking forward hopefully to the new women's organization.

At this convention the Conference voted to hold a merger meeting in the spring of 1931; to establish a fund of \$75,000 for the purpose of erecting a girls' dormitory at Luther College, Regina, Sask., Can., replacing the former grant for equipment of kitchen and living-room in the proposed building; to grant the request for \$15,000 to assist in establishing a school for training colored preachers and missionaries in the South; to give \$5127 for Gossner Missions and Russian Seminary Relief, as requested by Joint Synod; and to adopt as the new Junior project the building of a Hostel on the property at Kodaikanal (now paid for) at a cost of \$10,000.

Organization of the Kansas City and Central Kansas districts in November, 1929, the Portland, Seattle, and Spokane districts in June, 1930, was reported.

It was reported also that the full support of our India Lace School at Gudur had been assumed, the India Lace School Day offerings being sufficient to carry the cost; that Dr. and Mrs. Floyd Kantzer, Nurse Lillie Prange (1929) and later Nurse Frieda Adler (1930) were sent to India and although the hospital is not yet open for use, the medical work is under way. Our India Hospital is supported entirely by the Conference.

A service of remembrance was held for Mrs. J. H. Kuhlman, the vice-president, who served the Women's Missionary Conference so faithfully as its founder and first president; for Mrs. W. E. Reiss and Mrs. W. H. Goehring, all officers who were called to lay down their work during the biennium. Mrs. Em. Poppen, Mrs. Richard Atzinger, and Mrs. W. G. Eyman, respectively, were appointed to succeed them.

Mrs. F. C. Austin of Baltimore was elected vice-president and Mrs. A. L. Burman was chosen editor-in-chief of the women's magazine, known since 1930 as the "Women's Missionary Outlook."

Mrs. C. E. Krumm, in charge of the Extension Department, reported the membership of the Conference as twenty-one districts, with 349 societies of 15,127 women.

The hymn, "Hark, I Hear the Savior Walking," written by Rev. J. H. Kuhlman in memory of Mrs. Kuhlman, was adopted as the official Conference hymn.

On May 12, 1931, at St. Paul's Church, Toledo, O., a called meeting of the Women's Missionary Conference was held at 11 a. m. for the purpose of closing the business of the Conference. A resolution was passed to merge with the General Federation of Lutheran Women's Organizations of the former Iowa Synod; to include the women's societies of the former Buffalo Synod in this



merger; and to name the merged body the "Women's Missionary Federation of the American Lutheran Church."

By resolution also, the assets of the Women's Missionary Conference were transferred to the Women's Missionary Federation and the \$10,000 India hospital interest money was set aside as a nucleus for the Regina Dormitory Fund.

Following the benediction the last meeting of the Women's Missionary Conference was brought to a close.

This history would not be complete, were it to close at this point. The gathering of money and the transaction of business have not been the only aims of the Women's Missionary Conference. Our women are taking a greater interest in the work of the Church because they are learning more about it, due in large measure to the Literature Department.

In 1915 the Literature Committee of the Fremont District, upon request, issued for general use a small pamphlet containing an outline of material for monthly missionary programs. All reading matter was contained in supplementary leaflets.

Since 1916 the *Monthly Missionary Programs* have been published: first in pamphlet form, with twelve complete programs under one cover. These programs were arranged and edited by a Literary Committee of three. Mrs. H. P. Long was chairman of the committee from 1916-1920; Miss K. Lehmann from 1920-1922; Mrs. A. L. Burman from 1922-1926. Since 1924 the programs have been issued monthly and have taken the form of a magazine. In the fall of 1926 the Literature Board was formed, all department chairmen, editors and circulation manager of the *Missionary Programs*, and the editors of the Women's Department in the church papers making up its personnel, with the chairman of the Literature Department at its head.

Mrs. Em. Poppen was editor-in-chief of the programs from 1927-1930; Mrs. O. Tressel, one of the editors since 1923; Mrs. W. E. Reiss, subscription manager from 1923 until her death in 1929. The magazine has grown from eight to twenty pages, and has a circulation of over ten thousand.

The church papers now allow four, and on special occasions five, pages for the Women's Department. Mrs. H. B. Adams, as Literature Department chairman, has been untiring in her efforts. Many leaflets have been published; the new missionary books read and reviewed; program packets prepared for reading courses; and help given societies and individuals in numberless ways.

If our Conference had done nothing more, the missionary intelligence it has spread far and wide among the women would alone be worth while. But it has done more. Not all the good work that has been accomplished in our general conference, in the districts, in the societies, and by individuals can be told. Much of it has been done quietly and without ostentation. The various missionary enterprises of our Church have had the full and unstinted support of the women. Whenever possible, the mission causes have been presented to our women by representatives from the field. Our colored teachers from the South; missionaries on furlough from India and Kurdistan; Inner Mission workers from the cities,—all have brought their message either to the general conference or to the districts.

Looking backward over the history of our Women's Missionary Conference let us recognize in it the hand of divine Providence, and commend it to Him upon whose blessing all depends.

"Thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee."



## GENERAL FEDERATION OF LUTHERAN WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS OF THE IOWA SYNOD

Prior to 1926 the women's societies in the Iowa Synod gave their time and money for the good of the individual congregation, without united effort. Seeing the need and the possibilities of a women's organization, Rev. F. M. Bunge, of Chenoa, Ill., took the initiative in calling a meeting of the women of the state of Illinois. On August 25, 1926, a number of delegates and visitors representing eight Ladies' Aids met at Trinity church in Chenoa, for the purpose of organizing a Lutheran women's federation. Temporary officers elected were: president, Rev. Bunge; vice-president, Mrs. A. Oller, Peoria; secretary, Mrs. A. Sass, Streator; and treasurer, Miss Minnie Gentes, Chenoa. A proposed constitution was presented and, after much discussion, tentatively adopted. The time for the first convention, which was to be open to all women's organizations of the synod, was set for one month later, and the cordial invitation of the Chenoa congregation to hold the meeting there was gratefully accepted.

Accordingly, the first convention of the "General Federation of the Lutheran Women's Organizations of the Iowa Synod" was held at Trinity Church, Chenoa, Ill., on Sunday, September 26, 1926. Divine services were attended in the morning, with the sermon by Rev. C. A. Wiederanders of La Moille. The morning's offering was for the treasury of the Federation. At noon a basket dinner was enjoyed, the local Aid serving coffee. The program and business meeting occupied the afternoon, and in the evening the entertaining congregation furnished a musical program. This procedure became the established order for the organization. During the business session the constitution that had been under consideration was adopted with a few changes. Papers were read by Mrs. Frank Seeger on "Methods of Making the Women's Organization a Success," and by Rev. Dieter of Bartonville, on "The Need of Lutheran Publicity." Officers were elected for the coming year as follows: president, Mrs. Frank Seeger, Streator; vice-president, Mrs. A. Rose, Peoria; secretary, Mrs. A. Sass, Streator; treasurer, Miss Minnie Gentes, Chenoa. A committee was appointed to work out plans for district meetings.

The second annual meeting was held at Dixon, Ill., Rev. Suechting, pastor, September 25, 1927. The sermon was delivered by Rev. F. M. Bunge. The afternoon session was enhanced by an address by Rev. G. Krueger of Clinton, Ia., on "Sowing and Reaping," and a paper on "What is the Missionary Spirit?" by Mrs. L. A. Meyer of Strawn, Ill. Plans were entered upon for district meetings, north, east, south, and west. Arrangements for these meetings were left to the discretion of the various groups. Rev. Bunge was appointed the official representative of the Federation and authorized to submit the constitution to Synod for approval. A program committee was appointed, also a publicity committee. The same officers were elected for another year.

In 1928, on September 30, the convention was held at Sibley, Rev. Gerlach, pastor. Rev. O. Behrens of Benson, preached the sermon. In the afternoon Rev. Theo. Meinen of Flanagan spoke on "The Vision of Work." The president of the Federation reported that meetings of the Eastern and Southern districts were held in the spring and that the publicity committee was working. Rev. Bunge brought word that the organization of the Federation was not only sanctioned by

Synod, but heartily endorsed. During the year the committee appointed to furnish programs for the societies sent out material consisting of religious readings, especially of a missionary character, contests, stunts, and very interesting Bible questions. This plan, having proved satisfactory, was by vote continued. There was some discussion as to the advisability of binding the Federation to the financial support of some particular phase of work, but the question seems to have been left open. The incumbent officers were retained for another year, by vote of the 18 delegates present.

Streator, Ill., Rev. E. W. Kuethe pastor, entertained the Federation on September 29, 1929, Rev. F. W. Henke preaching the sermon. In the afternoon Miss Katharine Lehmann, president of the Women's Missionary Conference of Joint Synod, was the speaker, telling of the work of this Conference, organized fifteen years ago. Miss Lehmann stressed the need of organization to make possible the larger undertakings. Mrs. Em. Poppen, vice-president of the Conference, was present also, as a visitor. Mrs. Seeger, Federation president, told that the Northern District had been organized in June, and reported the affiliation of six more societies. All officers were re-elected but the secretary, who declined the honor. Miss Katherine Linder, Peoria, was chosen to succeed Mrs. Sass.

On September 28, 1930, the General Federation convened at Peoria in Zion's Church, Rev. S. Altpeter, pastor. Rev. Altpeter preached the sermon on "Women's Place in the Church of Our Modern Age." In the afternoon session Rev. Bunge spoke on the importance of persevering in this work until all the Lutheran women of the synods newly merged are united in one great body, with one aim and one purpose. Roll call was answered by 31 delegates from 16 societies. The president announced the presence of three visitors: Miss Katharine Lehmann, president of the Women's Missionary Conference of Joint Synod, Mrs. M. A. Meier, president of the Eastern District of the Iowa Synod, and Dr. F. Richter, president emeritus of the Iowa Synod, all of whom responded briefly and encouragingly. The president, Mrs. Seeger, told that a part of her year's activities had consisted in serving on the Joint Committee on Merger. The secretary reported on membership: 35 societies, with 1249 members, affiliated with the General Federation. Mrs. M. A. Meier read a report of what had been done in the organization of which she is president. A short history of that body is here inserted.

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In 1928 the president of the Eastern District of the Iowa Synod appointed a committee to call together the women of the district for the purpose of forming an organization similar to the one in the West. At this meeting, held May 2, 1929, at the Orphans' Home auditorium in Toledo, O., Rev. A. O. Zeitner, of Ottawa Lake, Mich., acted as chairman, Mrs. Ernest Trepf as secretary. Representatives from 15 societies showed much interest and enthusiasm, which resulted in voting to organize under the name, "The Women's Missionary Conference of the Eastern District of the Iowa Synod." Officers elected were: president, Mrs. M. A. Meier; vice-president, Mrs. F. G. Poppen; secretary, Mrs. Frieda Fritz; treasurer, Mrs. C. V. Sieving; all of Toledo. The main objectives were to be the Inner Mission work in and about Toledo, and the Home of Mercy at Williston, Ohio.

After a year of fruitful activity a second meeting was held in Toledo at St. Petri Church, Rev. M. A. Meier, pastor. Mrs. Walter Tilly, of Toledo, acted

as temporary secretary, Mrs. Fritz having moved to Iowa. Several more societies joined the organization, making a total of 20. Mrs. Max Schleicher was elected to the secretaryship; all other officers were asked to serve until the merger. Important resolutions adopted were: to unite with the General Federation of the women's organizations of the Iowa Synod, adopt its constitution, and express willingness to become a part of the proposed merged women's organization; and, to elect two delegates to the annual meeting of the Federation at Peoria, Ill., in the fall of 1930. From St. Petri's Women's Missionary Society came a recommendation "That the merged Women's Missionary Conference establish a fund for the erection of a hospital in New Guinea." This recommendation was favorably acted upon and referred to the General Federation at its 1930 meeting.

Following Mrs. Meier's report of the Eastern District several resolutions pertaining to the merger were adopted by the Federation. Mrs. Frank Seeger and Mrs. M. A. Meier were elected to represent this organization at the merger convention. The recommendation of the Eastern District, concerning the establishing of a fund for the erection of a hospital in New Guinea, was adopted by the General Federation.

Miss Lehmann announced the biennial convention of the Women's Missionary Conference of Joint Synod to be held at Baltimore, Md., October 30-November 2, and urged as many as possible to attend. Mrs. F. G. Poppen, of Toledo, was chosen to represent both the General Federation and the Eastern District at Baltimore. It was decided to retain the present officers until the merger is effected. Appropriate closing services brought to its conclusion the last regular meeting of the General Federation.

The representatives of the General Federation present at the merger meeting in Toledo, Ohio, held a final business session on the morning of May 12, 1931, at which time a resolution was passed to transfer all funds from the Federation treasury to that of the Women's Missionary Federation of the American Lutheran Church, to form a nucleus for the New Guinea hospital fund. (To this sum was added the offering lifted at the first meeting of the Women's Missionary Federation on the following day, making a total of \$559.81 to start the fund.—EDITOR).

During the first years of its existence the General Federation was occupied especially in increasing its membership, which proved more difficult than anticipated, in the face of passive resistance and active opposition. However, the needs of the Church were not forgotten. Home missionaries, the Muscatine Homes and the New Guinea field were given financial aid as much as possible. The missionary education of the members through monthly programs sent out to all societies was taken care of by the 15c capitation fee. The funds for benevolence were provided by two special offerings during the year.

Commendable progress has been made since the women of the Iowa Synod first met to organize for service in the Master's kingdom; progress achieved through loving work and thoughtful study.

*Some work of love begun,  
Some deed of kindness done,  
Some wanderer sought and won,  
Something for Thee.*



## WOMEN'S MISSIONARY FEDERATION OF THE AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

### ORGANIZATION

On the afternoon of May 12, 1931, a merged meeting of delegates and visitors from the former Joint, Iowa, and Buffalo synods was held at St. Paul's Church, Toledo, Ohio, Dr. L. H. Schuh, pastor. The business session was called to order by Miss Katharine Lehmann, chairman of the Joint Committee on Merger, who set forth the object of this meeting—the organization of the "Women's Missionary Federation of the American Lutheran Church." By acclamation the convention chose Miss Lehmann as chairman pro tem, Mrs. Walter Tilly as secretary pro tem.

The roll was called according to synods and responded to by six delegates from the Buffalo Synod, thirty from the Iowa, and one hundred twenty-eight from the Joint Synod, one hundred sixty-four in all.

Miss Katherine Linder, secretary of the General Federation of Lutheran Women's Organizations of the former Iowa Synod, presented a resolution declaring that body ready to merge. Mrs. O. Rohrbacher, secretary, presented a similar resolution on behalf of the Women's Missionary Conference of Joint Synod. Mrs. Frank Seeger, acting as secretary for the Joint Committee, read a resolution prepared by the Committee to the effect that this body now proceed to organize the "Women's Missionary Federation of the American Lutheran Church." All the resolutions were adopted without discussion and the way was cleared for action.

It will be of historical interest to have recorded here the names of the Joint Committee members. For the Iowa Synod, Mrs. Frank Seeger, Streator, Ill., and Mrs. M. A. Meier, of Toledo, O.; for the Buffalo Synod, Mrs. R. Kneuppel, of Milwaukee, Wis.; for the Joint Synod, Mrs. Em. Poppen, Grove City, O., and Miss Katharine Lehmann, of Bellevue, O. The preliminary work leading to the merger was under the direction of this committee.

Mrs. H. B. Adams, chairman of the Committee on Constitution, read a draft of constitutions and bylaws for the Federation, Districts, Groups, and Local Societies, that had been approved by the Joint Committee and the officials of the American Lutheran Church. This was adopted by the convention as a guide until the next meeting of the new body, when it should be submitted for final adoption, subject to any revision that might be deemed advisable by that time.

Outstanding among the resolutions passed at this meeting are: that the President of this Federation shall be a full-time salaried officer; that the position of General Secretary be a salaried one when it becomes necessary to establish an office; and that the Chairman of Missionary Education be allowed a certain sum for clerical and other help. All the departmental work done by the Women's Missionary Conference was adopted by the new Federation, and the New Guinea Commissary Department added. This had been the special project of the former Iowa Synod societies. All the food, clothing, and supplies needed for the missionaries as well as for the natives are sent in the form of Christmas boxes to the New Guinea field. Mrs. Studier, who had charge of this work, was by vote asked to continue until the next convention.

The *Women's Missionary Outlook* was adopted as the official publication of the Federation and the Women's Department in both English and German church papers continued. Assets from the two merging bodies were received by the new body, and the funds from the former Iowa Synod organization set aside as the beginning of the New Guinea Hospital Fund.

In the evening of this day, St. Petri's Church, Rev. M. A. Meier, pastor, was the scene of a largely attended service at which two pageants were presented: "Woman's Work in Joint Synod," written by Mrs. Em. Poppen, and "The Master Calleth Me," by Mrs. Charles Osten. These presentations of what had been accomplished and of the great opportunities for service that still lie before the women of the Church, were a fitting introduction to the first convention.

#### FIRST CONVENTION

On May 13, 1931, again at St. Paul's Church, the new organization was launched on a sea of good wishes and greetings from various sources.

An interesting feature of this morning's program was "What the Merger Means to Us." Mrs. W. Ziemer, of Milwaukee, spoke for the women of the former Buffalo Synod, Mrs. L. A. Meyer, of Strawn, Ill., in behalf of the women of the former Iowa Synod, and Mrs. E. L. Schomberg, of Toledo, a veteran member of the Women's Missionary Conference, gave to her audience a vision of the possibilities opened to the Federation by this merger.

Rev. K. Hoessel, a vice-president of the American Lutheran Church, delivered an address in which he stressed the urgency of mission work and made plain that our prayers for the cause must be followed up by practical service.

A step toward this practical service was taken by the adoption of a resolution to establish through the Thankoffering boxes a fund for the erection and equipping of a hospital in New Guinea. The India Hospital and Lace School, the Parsonage Building Fund, Negro Missions, Mexican Missions, and the building of a girls' dormitory at Regina for Luther College, all projects of the Women's Missionary Conference, were taken over to be finished and supported by the new Women's Missionary Federation.

The Redistricting Committee, through its chairman, Mrs. C. E. Krumm, recommended forming districts of the Federation according to the geographical boundaries of the districts of the American Lutheran Church, and dividing these districts into groups corresponding to those of the pastoral conferences where this is possible. To this the convention agreed.

An impressive liturgical form was used to close this, the first meeting of the Women's Missionary Federation of the American Lutheran Church.

The officers elected to carry on the women's work to which the merger had given new impetus were:

President.....	Miss Katharine Lehmann, Bellevue, O.
First Vice-President.....	Mrs. Em. Poppen, Columbus, O.
Second Vice-President.....	Mrs. M. A. Meier, Toledo, O.
General Secretary.....	Mrs. John Atzinger, Columbus, O.
Financial Secretary.....	Mrs. Paul A. Adams, Youngstown, O.
Junior Chairman.....	Mrs. L. A. Meyer, Strawn, Ill.
Thankoffering Chairman.....	Mrs. Chas. Osten, Toledo, O.
Life and In Memoriam.....	Mrs. Harold Hoge, Milwaukee, Wis.

India Lace Chairman.....	Mrs. Dan Knies, Columbus, O.
Dept. of Missionary Education.....	Mrs. H. B. Adams, Bluffton, O.
Special Needs.....	Mrs. J. Sealing, Holland, Ind.

#### Appointed by the Executive Board:

Treasurer.....	Miss Clara Seward, Fremont, O.
Editor, <i>Women's Missionary Outlook</i> .....	Mrs. A. L. Burman, Toledo, O.
Junior Dept. of <i>Outlook</i> .....	Mrs. O. Tressel, Richmond, Ind.
Subscription Manager, <i>Outlook</i> .....	Mrs. R. Atzinger, Columbus, O.
Women's Dept., <i>Lutheran Standard</i> ....	Mrs. C. H. Herrnstein, New Lexington, O.
Women's Dept., <i>Kirchenblatt</i> .....	Miss Marie zum Mallen, Youngstown, O.

To some of the officers the work was new; but all went to work with a will and the wheels turned. Before the next convention five districts and their component groups were re-organized: the Eastern, Ohio, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Texas. A brand new district, the Minnesota, came into being in October, 1931. Other existing districts continued to function as before, awaiting the opportune time for re-organization. These were the California, Central Kansas, Kansas City, Chicago, Guttenberg, Nebraska, Portland, Seattle, Spokane, and Southern Indiana of the former Women's Conference, and the Peoria Group of the former General Federation.

During this period the doctor's bungalow, nurses' home and dispensary were added to the India hospital plant. The Parsonage Building Fund was completed and progress was reported on the Kodaikanal Hostel Fund, the new Junior project. The central office was established August, 1931, in a large, pleasant front room on the third floor of the Lutheran Book Concern building at Columbus, O. This forward step made the work of the administration efficient and business-like, doing away with much of confusion and scattered effort. Visitors from many parts of the world called at the office. New Guinea, India, Germany, widely separated states, and Canada sent their representatives to our door.

In common with all other organizations, the new Federation suffered a decreased income during the "depression" years. This was deeply regretted for it made expansion in any direction hard. But all promises made were kept and no retrenchment was necessary, for which God be praised.

#### SECOND CONVENTION — 1932

The 1932 convention was eagerly anticipated. It proved to be the largest in the history of the women's work. Centrally located at Fremont, O., in Grace Church, Rev. A. Peffly, pastor, the meeting on October 25-27 attracted many to the beautiful new church. 193 delegates and 391 visitors registered, which, however, does not account for all those present. Greetings from the Ohio District, the Lake Erie Group, and the entertaining missionary society, from several other districts, from Regina, Can., and from the Women's Missionary Society of the United Lutheran Church were responded to by Mrs. M. A. Meier, vice-president.

The convention theme was "Beginning at Jerusalem." Rev. L. Ludwig, president of the Northwestern District, addressing the convention pleaded for spiritual leadership and keeping of the faith. "The Women's Missionary Federation has sounded a deep spiritual note. Let no clanking of mere organization



machinery drown out this spiritual note, but build upon the spirit of love, prayer, and sacrifice." Dr. W. H. Lehmann, Superintendent of Home Missions, in his address reminded us that we must begin with our own church, but our mission is to *spread* the Gospel. Dr. Lehmann reported concerning the Parsonage Building Fund that thirty-four loans had been granted from the \$75,000 and already \$13,000 have been refunded to be loaned again. He thanked the Federation in the name of the Church for the work done through this fund and the Special Needs Department.

Mrs. G. A. Sundby, president of the Norwegian Lutheran Women's Missionary Federation, brought the greetings of her constituency and delivered a very well received address on the work of women in the church. "Mothering," she said, "is the real work of woman." Home is a woman's special responsibility, therefore every Christian woman should help to bring the Light of the world into the dark places where the word "home" is not known.

Missionaries from the foreign fields gave interesting side-lights on their work, Rev. H. W. Mayer speaking for the India field, Rev. and Mrs. Geo. Hueter for New Guinea. This proved to be one of the advantages gained by the merger,—that our missionary horizon is widened to include two foreign fields instead of one.

The two evenings during the convention were well spent. A new feature introduced on the first evening was a banquet. Not many churches could accommodate 700 guests, as did Grace Church in its dining hall. Miss K. Lehmann acted as toastmistress and responses to toasts came from all over the country. This evening of social diversion helped East to meet West. The second evening was devoted to pageantry. Owing to the large number of people present two presentations were given of the home mission pageant, "Beginning from Jerusalem," written by Mrs. H. B. Adams and Mrs. C. H. Osten.

Another innovation was a Round Table on "The Needs and Possibilities of Home Mission Work in the American Lutheran Church." Ten large and beautifully done posters served to illustrate the subject. Mrs. O. Sommerfeld and Mrs. W. J. Ferne collaborated to prepare and conduct this worthwhile number. The subject matter has been preserved in a pamphlet, "Facts on Home Missions."

Again we were called upon to recognize the loss of a faithful worker, Miss Bertha Reiss, former president of the Southern Indiana District, who met death by accident in December, 1931.

The Federation voted to increase its annual contribution to Colored Missions to \$1000; to provide a scholarship for a colored girl preparing to be a missionary among her own people; to continue the scholarship for a young man preparing for medical mission work in New Guinea; and to set the sum for the New Guinea hospital at \$15,000, on advice of the New Guinea Section of the Foreign Mission Board.

The constitution presented at the merger convention was adopted with minor amendments. Election of officers brought a few changes: Mrs. Katherine Klindworth became chairman of Special Needs, succeeding Mrs. Sealing; Mrs. R. Taeuber was elected head of the New Guinea Commissary, relieving Mrs. Studier; Mrs. Kraybill succeeded Mrs. H. B. Adams as Missionary Education chairman, while Mrs. H. B. Adams became editor of the Women's Department of the *Lutheran Standard*, succeeding Mrs. Herrnstein.

Subscriptions to the *Missionary Outlook* had increased to 12,000 by this time, reaching three-fourths of the membership. Auditor's reports showed all accounts well kept and funds well handled. The Women's Missionary Federation has apparently found rather smooth sailing.

During the next biennium steady progress was made. The hospital at Renigunta in India was dedicated on March 17, 1933, and the medical mission work was in full swing. Nurse Lillie Prange returned late in 1933 after four years' active service in the medical mission field. In November 1933 Miss Ruth Hepner of Cleveland, O., a graduate of Capital University, was commissioned by the Foreign Mission Board as our missionary to India. Miss Hepner sailed in January, 1934, realizing the hopes of the Federation for a full-time manager of the Lace School at Gudur, India. Blueprints of the hospital and nurses' home at Amele, in the Madang territory, New Guinea, were received at the office. Sufficient cash was on hand to begin building the Kodaikanal Hostel.

The president of the Federation was made an advisory member of the India section of the Foreign Mission Board in the fall of 1934, and a few months later the same courtesy was extended by the New Guinea section, in recognition of the interests of the Women's Missionary Federation on both fields.

An event of interest occurred in June, 1934, at Minneapolis, when the presidents of four national Lutheran women's organizations met and were presented to the convention of women of the Augustana Synod. The Norwegian women were in convention at the same time in the city, while the presidents of the United Lutheran Church and American Lutheran Church women's organizations were guests of the respective assemblies. This was a "first" in the history of the Lutheran Church in America.

### THIRD CONVENTION — 1934

In answer to an invitation to carry the biennial convention farther west, the Federation became the guest of the five American Lutheran churches in Oshkosh, Wis, October 23-25, 1934. Midwestern hospitality made everyone feel at home, whether from Maryland or California. All districts but one were represented in the registration of 582. Sessions were divided between Peace Church, Rev. C. J. Lange, pastor, and First English, Rev. E. A. Koch, pastor.

The theme followed throughout the program was "The Conquering Christ." At each session the theme was developed by Mrs. Chas. Troutman, who brought much of spiritual uplift to all present. The President in her message said that in our Christian warfare our battle cry should be "Forward," our captain the conquering Christ, our banner Love, our weapon the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word.

Greetings were extended by district, group, and society officials and responded to by Mrs. Em. Poppen, first vice-president of the Federation. A telegram from Dr. C. C. Hein, president of the American Lutheran Church, a letter from Miss A. Highland, second vice-president of the Augustana Women's Missionary Society, personal greetings from Mrs. G. A. Sundby, president of the Norwegian Lutheran women's organization, Mrs. John Meck, Thankoffering chairman of the United Lutheran Women's Society, and Rev. K. Hoessel, second vice-president of the American Lutheran Church, brought many happy felicitations to start the convention on its way.

President Rex Schneider, of Luther College at Regina, Canada, spoke in behalf of the proposed girls' dormitory at that school; Rev. Felger, for the Board of Mexican Missions, said that every school and chapel on the Mexican mission field stands as a memorial to the Women's Federation. Sister Martha Genseke of the Milwaukee Lutheran Deaconess Motherhouse, who had just completed fifty years of service in the diaconate was presented to the assembly as an honored guest.

Dr. T. F. Gullixson, president of the Norwegian Lutheran Theological Seminary in St. Paul, Minn., delivered an inspiring address on "The Conquering Christ and the Lutheran Church of America." He said: "If the victorious Christ is to have and hold and use our churches He must do it through His heart-hold on every one of us. His victory must make itself manifest in us, we must become 'overcomers.' "

Rev. W. H. Gammelín, in an address on home mission work, said it is high time for the American Lutheran Church to awake from her lethargy toward home mission obligations and stop the leakage of souls that are being lost to Christ.

Department conferences proved to be a very popular feature at the Oshkosh convention. The future holds promise that this will be one of the most important parts of the biennial meetings. The parish hall of First English Church offered fine facilities for exhibits. All departmental work was there on view and the place was crowded. A poster contest that lined the walls of the building brought out an unexpected display of artistic talent from all parts of the country.

The first evening was given over to the members of Peace Church, who presented a Biblical drama. On the second evening in First English Church a Thankoffering service was held, which included a stirring address on "Stewardship" by Rev. E. W. Schramm, editor of the *Lutheran Standard*; "My Thanksgiving Creed," a responsive service, and "The Acceptable Gift," a Thank-offering presentation, both written by our own young women and published at Federation headquarters.

May we pause here to note the advance made by the Federation along these lines? Missionary education has always been stressed; and the seeds sown, watered, and tended through the years are bearing fruit in the interest shown by our women both in using and in producing missionary literature. We realize the need of this and its value, so we thank God for our awakened women.

Again we were inspired by the presence of foreign missionaries. Rev. and Mrs. Paul Fliehler, on furlough from New Guinea, spoke very interestingly in behalf of that field, thanking the Federation for its support of the medical work. Mrs. Fliehler said her nearest neighbor was three days' walking journey distant, and one of the longings of the missionaries is to attend gatherings of this kind. Rev. Oberdorfer, Miss Ruth Meyer, and Miss Lillie Prange put the convention in touch with the work in India, evangelistic, medical, and industrial, and held up some ideals for the future. The Kodaikanal Hostel was reported under way, the excavating done and the masonry started.

Election brought no change in the staff of officers; but in December, 1934, Miss Jeanne Lang was appointed by the Executive Committee as treasurer to follow Miss Clara Seward, resigned because of her marriage.

No new undertakings were entered upon at this time. However, there is noticeable a steady growth in power, due not only to increased efficiency and



the upward turn in material gifts, but to a deeper spirituality showing itself throughout the Federation. It is as though the organization were becoming stabilized, settling itself for greater effort, greater accomplishment.

The territory covered by the Eastern District proved too widespread for practical purposes. Consequently, in November, 1934, it was divided into the Eastern and Atlantic Districts. In June, 1935, the North Pacific District was organized by uniting the Portland and Seattle Districts. By reorganization the Iowa District came into being in the same month. In October, 1935, the Illinois District was formed of the former Chicago District and the Peoria Group. At this present time there is promise of organizing the Buffalo Group.

In February, 1935, the Executive Board voted for membership in the Foreign Missions Conference of North America, which body acts as a clearing house for all missionaries sent to foreign fields, and in the Lutheran Foreign Missions Conference.

In the fall of 1935, appropriately enough the Women's Federation sent Dr. Agnes Hoeger to the New Guinea mission field. Her salary has been assumed by the Ohio District of the Federation. Word comes that our hospital in New Guinea is about completed. The first payment was made in August, 1933. There is the hospital, a doctor's bungalow, a nurses' home, and the native wards.

Our India hospital, under the able direction of Dr. Kantzer, continues its service of mercy to thousands of sufferers in our mission field. Nurse Adler, who returned to her home in Germany on furlough in June, 1935, decided not to go back to the field, leaving the hospital at this writing without a white nurse. The Foreign Mission Board is taking steps to secure her successor.

A plea has come from India for the expansion of the Lace School supported by the Federation. Since the needed funds are on hand, the expansion, approved by the Foreign Board and the India Conference, was authorized by the Executive Board in February, 1936. The school will be moved from Gudur to Nayudupet. The building will be on the cottage plan, eight girls to a home, in a village of their own. Miss Ruth Hepner has made good as manager of the school.

Dr. Rieb and Vesta Stephens have completed their courses, having made good use of their scholarships. Dr. Rieb expects to go to New Guinea in 1936. Vesta Stephens has been employed as a missionary on our colored mission field in the South.

In May, 1936, the Women's Missionary Federation was five years old. What is the tale of these years?

The Junior Department has grown to a membership of more than 5000 children. The Kodaikanal Hostel, known as "Jumisba," has become a reality, finished and ready for use early in 1936. The Juniors have done well.

Since the merger the women of the Federation have contributed for benevolence over \$160,000. This has made possible the completion of the Parsonage Building Fund, in May of 1932; the support of the Lace School at Gudur in India, and its expansion; the support of our India hospital; the building of our hospital in New Guinea; further support of Mexican missions; gifts, whose money value is over \$10,000 a year to home missionaries and institutions of the Church through the Special Needs; gifts through the New Guinea Commissary worth from \$2000 to \$3000 annually; an investment of \$22,320.50 for the Regina Girls' Dormitory with a balance in the Thankoffering to augment this considerably; missionary scholarships; travel expenses for five foreign missionaries; support of Negro missions.

Besides, the modest administration expenses have been met; about 400,000 pieces of literature have been published, while the *Missionary Outlook* has been self-sustaining from the beginning. The number of readers on the Roll of Honor has had a fine increase. The membership of the Federation has not grown by leaps and bounds; there has been a steady, slow growth to an estimated 17,000 members.

#### 1936 CONVENTION

The convention of 1936 was held at Trinity Church, the oldest and largest American Lutheran church in Columbus, Ohio. This city, centrally located, proved to be a good convention place: for the first time in the history of the Federation every district was represented, and the attendance was by far the largest, with a registration of 1,258.

The theme of the Columbus convention, "Lord, What Wilt Thou Have Me to Do?" was developed in a telling manner by Sister Nanca Schoen, training sister of the Milwaukee Deaconess Motherhouse. The theme song was "Come Into My Heart, Lord Jesus." Mrs. E. H. Winterhoff, President of the Columbus Group, welcomed the assembly, and Mrs. M. A. Meier, second Federation vice-president, responded.

Greetings were read from the Women's Missionary Society of Augustana Synod, and the Norwegian Women's Missionary Federation. Miss Flora Prince, president of the Women's Missionary Society of the United Lutheran Church, brought personal greetings as did Rev. Henry Koch, Executive Secretary of the Luther League, and Sister Marie for the Inner Mission League of the Miami Valley. We were especially glad to have with us Dr. C. C. Hein, President of the American Lutheran Church, who expressed his pleasure at being able to attend a convention of the Women's Missionary Federation, the first time it has been possible for him to do so. Dr. Hein said that we are rendering invaluable service both to the Church and to the world at large.

In delivering her message the president of the Women's Missionary Federation summarized the achievements of the Federation during the five years of its existence, and paid tribute to the faithfulness of the workers. At this time it was decided to give all the offerings of this convention except that of Tuesday evening to the St. Paul Academy of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, mainly for its home economics department. This resulted in the sum of \$396.97 for the Academy, and \$201.22, given on Tuesday evening, for Foreign Missions.

Our missionaries brought informal greetings from their respective fields: Dr. and Mrs. Theo. Braun and Rev. F. Henkelmann for New Guinea, the Schramms and Mrs. Carl Doermann for India.

Rev. Milton Schramm explained the motion pictures of our India mission work, which were here shown for the first time.

Other features of the convention were a Drama Contest in which the first prize went to Mrs. Edward Lauer for her pageant "The Love of Christ Constraineth Us;" a Poster Contest in which the Columbus Group was the winner; and awards for reading, first and second places won by the Kansas City and Southern Indiana districts respectively. Mrs. Mary Troutman, first chairman of the Life Membership and Memorial Department and Mrs. Edw. Pfeiffer, organizer of the first Junior Mission Band in the Women's Missionary Federation were recognized and presented with flowers. Mrs. Pfeiffer received a purse of \$105, a gift from the Junior Mission Bands, to be used for the Kodaikanal

Hostel in any way she may choose. (The fund was used to establish the Pfeiffer Memorial Library at Jumisba.) A Panel Discussion by the chairmen of the Missionary Education, Junior, and Thankoffering departments was a pleasing and valuable innovation.

Mrs. A. L. Burman conducted a very complete and comprehensive Bible study which she hoped would lead to Bible study classes in many societies.

Rev. Geo. Bubolz, a home missionary, Rev. Hans Knauer, a member of the Home Mission Board, and Rev. Harold Yochum, pastor of a self-supporting congregation, held an animated discussion of Home Mission Problems, in which they convinced us that we women can and should take an active part in the solution of them.

Wednesday evening was devoted to Music, the session being held in beautiful Mees Hall at Capital University. Prof. Ellis Snyder, head of the voice department of the Conservatory, addressed the capacity audience on "Music in the Service of Religion." The Chapel Choir enriched this session with a splendid concert, after which the co-eds held a reception for the convention guests in Troutman Hall. This was the first visit of many of the women to Capital University.

Among the resolutions passed were these:

1.) That the Federation convention be lengthened by one day, beginning Tuesday afternoon and closing Friday noon.

2.) That the Federation approve a budget of \$17,325 submitted by the Executive Board for 1937. This includes an item of \$3,000 as a payment on a Health Station and school for missionaries' children in New Guinea which the Women's Missionary Federation voted to build, subject to approval of the Board of Trustees.

3.) That since the Junior Mission Bands have practically finished their India project, Jumisba, they undertake the furnishing of the proposed new mission school in San Antonio and establish a fund for the education of a Mexican boy for the ministry.

4.) That we pause a moment in recognition of the faithful service of Miss Mary Schodde, one-time treasurer of the Women's Missionary Conference, who was called out of this world during the biennium.

That we recognize by a rising vote of the assembly the faithfulness and efficiency of our secretary, Mrs. John Atzinger, who has served the former Women's Missionary Conference and the Women's Missionary Federation for the past fifteen years. Miss Martha Stellhorn was elected to succeed Mrs. Atzinger, the only change in the elected officers.

Two outstanding incidents at this convention were that the Chicago Group of the new Illinois District had a 100 per cent representation, and that the first three co-ed graduates of Capital University were present: two of them pastors' wives and the third a group president. Does co-education pay?

Abundant resolutions of thanks were passed to the entertaining hosts and hostesses at the close of this fourth convention, at which there was standing room only at most of the sessions, both at Trinity Church and Mees Hall. The Women's Missionary Federation is growing.

This was a biennium of organization and travel. The Canada District came into being, also the Buffalo Group of the Eastern District. The Federation was introduced to the Virginias and North Carolina. The Federation president visited



the Mexican mission field in Texas, making a complete tour of all stations, visiting homes, meeting the workers, and inspecting the buildings financed by the Women's Missionary Federation.

Our Thankoffering average in 1935 was \$1.55. A good place to grow!

### HIGH LIGHTS OF THE BIENNIUM 1937-1938

The Rocky Mountain District was organized, and a temporary organization effected at Madison, South Dakota.

Delegates were sent to both the Foreign Missions Conference and the Lutheran Foreign Missions Conference, in which we now hold membership.

Improvements were made at Martin Luther Institute in Tuscaloosa, Alabama in our Negro mission field, and a mission school was built for our Mexican mission at San Antonio, Texas, equipment furnished by the Junior Mission Bands.

Parsonages provided by the Parsonage Building Fund now number fifty-four.

In 1937 the Kodaikanal Hostel known as Jumisba was finished, and Rev. and Mrs. Wm. Weiss were sent to India to take charge of the Hostel and the missionaries' children there.

Miss Gertruth Kettner was sent to India to work among the Bible women, and her support assumed.

Miss Mildred Monke of Regent, North Dakota was commissioned at the meeting of the American Lutheran Church at Sandusky, Ohio in 1938 and went to India with Rev. and Mrs. Schwan to take over the management of the India Lace School at Nayudupet.

The Girls' Dormitory at Regina, Canada, a project first mentioned eight years ago, is finished and was dedicated September 4, 1938. The president of the Women's Missionary Federation was present at the dedication and presented the key of the beautiful building to the president of the Board of Regents, Rev. Karl Schmidt. Contrary to the usual practice, the building was completed with a surplus of \$1,647.90, which sum the Executive Board authorized the Building Committee to use for the dormitory as it saw fit. The sum given for the building was \$75,000.

Much more money was paid out during these two years than ever before, something to be thankful for. That spells progress, and achievement.

### CONVENTION

The fifth convention of the Women's Missionary Federation was held in St. John's Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Rev. Leonard Hess, pastor, October 25-28, 1938, with the pastor acting as liturgist at the opening session. The theme for the convention was "An Open Door Before Thee." Again Sister Nanca Schoen, in her inimitable, consecrated way, developed this theme. Each morning session was opened with devotions led by one of our women; several Assembly Sings were led by Mrs. Aug. Baetke.

The assembly was welcomed by Mrs. Geo. Leibold, president of the missionary society of the host church; the response was given by Mrs. Em. Poppen, first vice-president of the Federation.

Greetings were extended By Dr. Em. Poppen in behalf of the American Lutheran Church; by Rev. Stremel for the Inner Missionary Society of Pittsburgh;

and by Sister Martha Pretzlaff, Superintendent of Passavant Hospital, for that institution of mercy. Written greetings were read from the national women's organizations of the Augustana Synod, the Norwegian Lutheran Church, and the United Lutheran Church.

A Home Mission play written by Mrs. Ray Vogeley was presented by four women; the work of the various departments was presented at this convention by means of open forum and discussion periods.

New Guinea and India films and a short film of our school in Regina, Canada were shown.

Pittsburgh is the home of the renowned H. J. Heinz's "57" varieties. Through the courtesy of the company the convention enjoyed a tour through the great plant, with lunch, motion pictures, and an organ prelude by the company's regular organist.

#### SPEAKERS

Prof. T. R. Speigner of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, principal of Martin Luther Institute, spoke on "What the Lutheran Church Has Meant to Me." Prof. Speigner said to him it has meant a fuller life for him and his people, and paid tribute to Rev. H. F. Richards, founder of our work among the Negroes. The Institute which had twelve students when the speaker took charge now has 318 enrolled.

Dr. Floyd Kantzer, chief medical officer of our hospital at Renigunta, brought greetings from Christian congregations and caste groups who expressed thanks to God and the Women's Missionary Federation through whose gifts the hospital was made possible. Dr. Kantzer gave a survey of his nine years of work in India, illustrated with human interest stories of patients. The hospital is under the care of two efficient Indian doctors, an Indian Superintendent of nurses, and an Indian nursing staff.

Mrs. Floyd Kantzer in a beautiful Indian sari, gave "Glimpses of our Hospital Work."

Rev. R. Taeuber, Secretary of the New Guinea field, by means of pictures and answers to questions gave a graphic story of the New Guinea work and Commissary Department.

Rev. D. Texidor, pastor and teacher at San Antonio, in our Mexican Mission field, spoke on "Bringing the Gospel to the Mexicans." Rev. Texidor, born in Porto Rico and a convert from Catholicism, in his zeal said he would be willing to carry on his work even if he had to preach from a tent, in the city streets, or under a tree. Interestingly, Rev. Texidor was a pupil of Sister Nanca while she was a missionary in Porto Rico.

Dr. Ralph Long, presenting "World Lutheranism," gave a brief history of the Lutheran World Convention, organized 1923, and disclosed the fact that this body has distributed \$8,000,000 since the World War. Dr. Long pleaded for more help, especially for Lutherans in Russia and the Ukraine, and for the Gossner Mission in India, second largest mission in the world. We gave \$900 in 1938.

#### LETTERS

Dr. Kraushaar, president of Texas Lutheran College, Seguin, and President Braulick of Wartburg College, Waverly, Iowa, thanked for the \$2,000 given to each school for refurbishing and repairs. Rev. Karl Schmidt, for the Board of Regents, Luther College, Regina, Canada, President Rex Schneider, Mrs.

Schneider, the deans, and the girls occupying the new dormitory thanked the Federation for the fine building which has been named "Federation Hall."

Rev. John Becker, Secretary of Christian Higher Education thanked the Women's Missionary Federation for its liberal support of our colleges.

#### IN MEMORIAM

On April 30, 1937, Dr. C. C. Hein went to his heavenly home. The Women's Missionary Federation has lost a good friend; for Dr. Hein was deeply interested in the Federation. As far as we know, his last public appearance was at our 1936 convention. By action of the Executive Board Dr. Hein was memorialized through our Life Membership and Memorial Department and at this convention a brief memorial service was conducted for him and Mrs. L. F. Fackler, who was for a short time president of the Southern Indiana District.

#### BUSINESS ITEMS

The Junior Mission Bands were, upon petition of the Ohio District, permitted to assume the annual payment of \$800 toward the salary of Rev. Wm. Weiss, housefather at Jumisba, and to finance the cost of mechanical refrigeration for Jumisba.

The sum of \$2,500 a year was granted for maintenance of the New Guinea Health Station. Building of the Station was deferred by action of the Board of Trustees until some source of maintenance is assured.

A resolution from the Southern Indiana District asked the Federation to assume entire support of the Bible women's work in India. The convention adopted a motion recognizing the value of the work but giving as its opinion that we cannot do more for it than we are doing at the present time.

Total registration was announced as 1,012, making this the second largest convention to date.

One change resulted from the election of officers: Mrs. Katherine Klindworth was succeeded by Mrs. Paul Schumann as Special Needs Chairman. Among the appointed officers, Mrs. Walter Lindemuth succeeded Miss Jean Lang as Treasurer. Mrs. C. H. Herrnstein was again chosen as the Editor of Women's Pages in the *Lutheran Standard*, succeeding Mrs. H. B. Adams, and Mrs. Aug. Baetke as Editor of Women's pages in the *Kirchenblatt*, due to Miss zum Mallen's withdrawal because of ill health.

Resolutions of appreciation were passed for the faithful services of Mrs. H. B. Adams who finds it necessary to withdraw from her active service as editor for the *Standard*, and for the efficient services of Miss Jean Lang and Mrs. Klindworth.

The newly elected and appointed officers were installed by the president of the Women's Missionary Federation.

Miss Lehmann having asked and received permission of the Executive Board for leave of absence for six months, it was announced at the convention that she and Mrs. John Atzinger were going to visit our India Mission field to see for themselves what the Women's Missionary Federation is doing in that part of the world. Mrs. Em. Poppen, first vice-president, agreed to take charge of the necessary work during the president's absence. Expressions of good will were presented to Mrs. Atzinger and Miss Lehmann by the Board and the Convention. The next day the two sailed from New York on the S. S. Bremen for



England, where they joined the missionaries Rev. and Mrs. Carl Schwan and Miss Mildred Monke for the rest of the trip aboard the Mashobra.

The afternoon offerings of the convention were given to Home Missions, \$307.00, and the evening offerings to Foreign Missions, \$275.50.

## OUTSTANDING EVENTS OF 1939 AND 1940

### INDIA

President Lehmann reported concerning her trip to our India mission field, visited since the last convention, that while there she had addressed a number of missionary societies and groups of native mission workers on the subject of our women's work in America; that she had spoken on the same general topic at a meeting in India of the Federation of Evangelical Lutheran Churches at Tranquebar, at a Bible Camp, and at two large gatherings of our women, where our Thankoffering was emphasized. At one of these meetings the Indian Christian women voted to use Thankoffering boxes as we do. She had the privilege also of addressing the students of the Union Christian Medical School for Women at their chapel service. This school is under the direction of Dr. Ida Scudder, internationally known missionary at Vellore. On their return to the United States both she and Mrs. Atzinger who accompanied her spoke many times to societies, groups, and districts about our India missions.

The bronze plaque presented by the Junior Department to Jumisba was presented with appropriate ceremony and placed on the cornerstone.

Rev. Weiss has been transferred from Jumisba to station duty so the Juniors are no longer to contribute to his salary.

Eleven Electrolux refrigerators run by kerosene were bought at Madras and delivered to our missionaries' homes.

Since Dr. Kantzer returned to the United States in the fall of 1938 our hospital is now completely staffed by Indian doctors and workers, under supervision of Rev. Doermann. This is an experimental move.

Ruth Hepner, manager of India Lace School, returned in the spring of 1939 and married Rev. C. Steinert. She is now our India Lace Chairman, while Mildred Monke has succeeded her in India.

### NEW GUINEA

Upon request we have made an initial payment on the Health Station which is to be built. Support was voted at \$2,500 per year when it has been established.

The final report from the field is that all our missionaries are supplied with refrigeration facilities; when the need arises we shall take care of it.

The New Guinea Commissary sends annually many cases of merchandise valued at thousands of dollars.

### OUR HOME FIELDS

School equipment from our closed colleges in the North was shipped to the South for use in our Negro mission field, chiefly at Tuscaloosa, Alabama, site of Martin Luther Institute.

No building was done on the Mexican mission field during this biennium.

The final payment on the Regina Dormitory was made in January, 1939, and "Federation Hall" is in use.

There are now fifty-six parsonages to the credit of the Parsonage Building Fund, which is not large enough to meet the demand for loans.

Cupid has been busy among our workers: Vesta Stephens, teacher in our mission school at Anniston, Alabama, is now Mrs. Coleman, and Prof. T. R. Speigner of Tuscaloosa, head of Martin Luther Institute, married Miss Marie Jordan.

#### CONVENTION

At Zion Church, Sandusky, Ohio, the sixth convention of the Women's Missionary Federation was held, October 22-25, 1940. The senior pastor, Dr. T. J. C. Stellhorn, acted as liturgist for the opening session.

Organist for the convention was Mrs. Edw. Prange

Convention theme, "The Abundant Life," was developed through the sessions by Mrs. Ruth Hepner Steinert, assisted by her sister Mrs. E. Melchert. The theme song was "I'll Live for Him Who Died for Me," song leader, Mrs. Elsa Mees Schneider. The morning devotions were conducted by district presidents from various parts of the country.

The convention was welcomed by Mrs. Theo. Stellhorn, Jr., the response given by Mrs. M. A. Meier, second vice-president.

Greetings from the American Lutheran Church were delivered by Rev. J. Schillinger, president of the Ohio District, who said we have inspired the men to greater missionary efforts by our accomplishments. Greetings were read from various women's organizations; from the Board of Colored Missions, Salem Mission Circle of Rosebud, Texas, and from Prof. T. R. Speigner of Martin Luther Institute, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

Mrs. Em. Poppen conducted an impressive memorial service for Ademma, the little crippled teacher in our India Lace School; for Mrs. August Baetke, our beloved and enthusiastic editor of the Women's pages in the *Kirkenblatt*; for Mrs. Dan Knies, devoted India Lace Chairman for twelve years, all of whom died in 1939; and for Mrs. Mary Troutman, long-time Life Membership and Memorial Chairman in the Women's Missionary Conference and a regular attendant at our meetings until she was no longer able to come. Mrs. Troutman went home in 1940.

News of the various departments was broadcast to the convention over Station WMF, and at intervals the "Roving Reporter" interrupted the program with news items and announcements, which served to keep up interest and anticipation.

Extension Department reported an increase of 109 societies and 2,423 members, making a total membership to date of about 21,500.

Thankoffering reported the 1939 offering as \$36,653.25, and urged us to "Keep your dials *tuned in*, your hearts *tuned on*, and yourselves *tuned up* to the Thankoffering way.

Missionary Education reported wider use of program packets.

Junior Department reported growth in membership, contributions, and activity.

India Lace reported one hundred seventeen girls and eight teachers in the School, with five little ones being cared for. War conditions make it difficult to ship articles here, and cut down sale of laces.

New Guinea Commissary announced that Christmas Boxes arrived safely. Special Needs warned us to do our Christmas shopping early.

Life Membership and Memorial Chairman said we need more native help in our Mexican mission field. Life Memberships are increasing gradually, total now 2,789.

*Outlook* editor reported her heart's desire for a colored magazine cover was realized in 1940. Subscribers now number 18,700.

Since the year 1940 marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of printed programs, the Editor, Junior Editor, and Subscription Manager were called on to broadcast, after which Miss Lehmann in behalf of the Women's Missionary Federation presented our appreciation of the value of the *Outlook* and the long, faithful service of its staff in a tangible form: to the Editor, Mrs. A. L. Burman, \$100.00; to the Junior Editor, Mrs. O. Tressel, \$25.00; and to the Subscription Manager, Mrs. R. Atzinger, \$25.00.

With us as visitors were Sister Nanca, Sister Helen, and Sister Marie, representing the Lutheran Deaconess Motherhouse at Milwaukee. They asked for our prayers in behalf of their work as Deaconesses.

As it is becoming increasingly difficult to find a congregation and church large enough to entertain our national conventions, the question as to holding our meetings in a hotel was discussed by Mrs. C. Osten and Mrs. G. C. Gast. The lively discussion, thrown open to all, resulted in a decision to accept the invitation of the Illinois District to meet in Chicago in 1942, at a hotel.

A feature of the convention was the calling forward six of the eight living Dornbirer sisters whose family has served the entertaining Zion Church for sixty-one years.

At the close of the first afternoon's session Zion congregation conducted a tour to the famous "Blue Hole" at Castalia, Ohio, and in the evening a reception was held in the church parlors.

#### SPEAKERS

Speakers for the convention brought messages pregnant with inspiration to pursue our Federation work with more vigor than ever. Mrs. O. Malmin, of the Norwegian Women's Missionary Federation speaking on "Religious Education" told us that we are not to consider first the feeding or clothing of our boys and girls, nor to think of them as a psychology or behavior problem, but above all else we are to bring them Christ, their greatest need. Our problem is one of guiding our boys and girls, ourselves guided by an Almighty hand.

Miss Dorothy Conrad, librarian at Capital University, spoke of books and stressed the importance of eliminating trash from our reading. She then gave brief reviews of ten books on our reading list, awaking in us a desire to read them.

Rev. Pretzlaff of Toledo, Ohio gave an inspirational address on "Prayer," especially for women "Who," he said, "can with the help of God lead men to Christ."

Wednesday evening was devoted to Foreign Missions. The India field was represented by Ruth Meyer in Mohammedan costume, Mrs. Melchert (for her sister Mrs. Steinert) who modeled a Sugali outfit, and by Rev. and Mrs. Wm. Fritz. New Guinea missionary present was Mrs. Pietz who told interesting stories of the field. Rev. H. Enser, home from New Guinea, asked that we pray for our mission in New Guinea where the outbreak of war has taken the German



missionaries out of Finschhafen. Our own men are helping out in that field, making both of the fields understaffed. The situation there is tense.

Since this year's convention approximates most nearly our tenth anniversary, the president of the American Lutheran Church, Dr. Em. Poppen, addressed us on "Ten Years of Service." "Women and service," he said, "are two words inseparably connected." The speaker emphasized the value of our program of missionary education and of the help it has afforded our pastors. He spoke also of the deep appreciation of our gifts to the mission work of the Church.

Rev. E. H. Meuser, Executive Secretary of Home Missions, thanked the Women's Missionary Federation for making available young women to work in the Home Mission field and hoped we shall find it possible to increase the Parsonage Building Fund. He urged us to work for saving souls in this day when nations are bent on destroying bodies.

Dr. Oscar Mees spoke stirringly on Thursday evening in behalf of World Missions, pleading especially for the thirty-eight Orphaned Missions in the world at present.

#### BUSINESS

Financial obligations assumed are:

To increase the Parsonage Building Fund of \$75,000 to \$100,000, in four annual payments.

To support the Bible Women's Training School in India to the extent of \$500 annually.

To extend the use of our Mother's Day offering to include our India Lace School, Bible Women's Training School, and such other needs as our women's work in India may require.

To have the Junior Department assume \$250 per year to educate Olivia Alanis for work in our Mexican mission field, and to give \$350 for installing electricity in Jumisba and \$650 to furnish the hostel permanently (India).

To make our contribution to Gudur Girls' School in India \$4,500, the sum needed to complete the new building.

Resolutions were passed to:

Register our interest in Pacific Lutheran College and be ready to consider a future request for support.

Register our protest against the avalanche of unwholesome, unclean literature flooding our land.

Express our sincere gratitude to retiring officers for their faithful services to the Women's Missionary Federation. Special mention was made of Mrs. L. A. Meyer who has served untiringly as Junior Chairman since the merger.

Thank the entertaining congregation, pastors, speakers, and all who had a part in the fine convention.

A proposition to build a wing on the girls' dormitory at Capital University was presented by Mrs. W. C. Henry of Bellevue, Ohio, a member of the Board of Regents, who gave a complete picture of the need. Since the Board of Trustees of the American Lutheran Church had asked the Women's Missionary Federation to defer making plans to consider this dormitory proposition as having precedence over other pledges already made and necessary of fulfillment, the motion to vote on the proposition by ballot was ruled out of order, and the convention voted to concur with the wishes of the American Lutheran Church.

Attendance registered 1,044.

Offerings, Home Missions, \$435.68.

Election of officers resulted as follows:

First Vice-President.....	Mrs. L. F. Gast, Green Bay, Wisconsin
Second Vice-President.....	Mrs. Martin A. Meier, Toledo, Ohio
Secretary.....	Miss Martha Stellhorn, Columbus, Ohio
Financial Secretary.....	Mrs. P. A. Adams, Youngstown, Ohio
India Lace.....	Mrs. C. Steinert, Defiance, Ohio
Junior Mission Band.....	Mrs. J. Bodensieck, Dubuque, Iowa
Life Membership and Memorial.....	Mrs. H. Hoge, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Missionary Education.....	Mrs. D. B. Kraybill, Montgomery, W. Va.
New Guinea Commissary.....	Mrs. R. Taeuber, St. Paul, Minnesota
Special Needs.....	Mrs. E. H. Blessin, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Thankoffering.....	Mrs. C. H. Osten, Toledo, Ohio

Treasurer and Editors were re-appointed by the Executive Board.

This has been a full biennium. God grant the Women's Missionary Federation an increase in membership and a full measure of His grace that we may meet the attendant responsibilities.

#### THE WAR YEARS, 1941 AND 1942

Our country is at war, in World War II. Since the war is not being fought on our own territory life is going on much more comfortably here than in the countries that furnish the battle-ground. There is the feverish rush for top-speed war production and restrictions of many types that irk American citizens; nevertheless we are rendering "unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's" while we "render unto God the things that are God's." So our seventh biennial convention is being held in the Morrison Hotel in Chicago, October 27-30, 1942, and our program, by request of government authorities, is advertising War Bonds and War Stamps.

Our host is the Illinois District, our auditorium the Mural Room of the hotel, made to look as churchly as possible by the use of an altar and appropriate furnishings on the platform. Adjacent parlors furnish spacious room for exhibits, and the hotel rooms are largely given over to the throng of women attending the convention from a distance. There are 1352 registrations, Illinois leading with 36 delegates and 420 visitors, Ohio second with 142 delegates and 212 visitors. Our first hotel convention is a success.

\* \* \*

The convention theme, "Ye are God's Building," was treated by Rev. W. J. Ferne in the opening service under the sub-theme "Jesus Christ, the Foundation," and developed at each of the sessions by Sister Gladys Robinson of our Milwaukee Deaconess Home. The organist, furnished by the District, was Mrs. N. E. Bretz, of Goshen, Indiana; the song leader was Mrs. G. Ferne under whose leadership the hymns were well sung and the theme song, third stanza of "Savior, I follow on," was well learned. The singing of these Lutheran women called forth comments from some Lutheran men attending committee meetings in the hotel. It was inspiring.

Greetings from the American Lutheran Church, the women of Augustana Synod, Norwegian Lutheran Church, and United Lutheran Church of America were delivered in person by Dr. Em. Poppen, Mrs. W. E. Ryding, Mrs. J. E. Thorson, and Mrs. O. Sardeson respectively. Letters were read from Mildred Monke of our India mission, Dr. Kraushaar of Texas Lutheran College, Rev. Speigner of Martin Luther Institute, Alabama, and Palmira Pina, Texas, one of our mission workers.

Mrs. O. Sommerfeld of Blue Island welcomed the guests and Mrs. L. F. Gast of Green Bay, Wisconsin, first vice-president of the Women's Missionary Federation, responded. The President's message stressed the idea of Service: to our country and to our Lord. Conditions on our two foreign mission fields were described, and we were reminded that our opportunities are greater than ever, not less. We must pray, as never before, and must love, not hate, as some would have us do in time of war.

Mrs. C. H. Osten acting as Roving Reporter introduced the district presidents one by one during various sessions; Department Chairmen spoke briefly for their interests; several playlets written by our own women were staged; several films were shown, among them "Golden Fields of Living Grain," which presented the work of American Missions of the American Lutheran Church. Pastors from the Chicago area acted as liturgists. Miss Louise Timm and Mrs. Gerald Ferne enhanced the evening sessions with vocal solos, and the Illinois Mission Singers of the Blue Island congregation gave generously of their talent, singing a half hour of beautiful songs.

A sightseeing tour was much enjoyed on Thursday afternoon, giving a glimpse of Hull House, Chinatown, Field's Museum, Marshall Field's store, etc.

#### THOSE WHO SPOKE

Prominent among our guest speakers was Dr. Ida Scudder, head of Vellore Christian Medical College for Women at Vellore, India. Dr. Scudder, an internationally known and loved physician, told us that from this college 300 native women doctors have graduated and are working among their people. A number of "Friends of Vellore" were won at this time, the cost being an annual contribution of \$5.00. (Encouraged by resolution.)

Sister Gertrude Aper presented the Deaconess work, saying that "Deaconesses are co-laborers with God and must have in their hearts His love."

The "Good Samaritan Fund" was discussed in Round Table fashion by Mrs. W. J. Ferne and several pastors. The statement was made that this fund will be needed for perhaps the next fifteen years to help those pastors of old age or disability receiving no benefits or very meager returns from the Pension Fund.

Judge Henry Graven looking over his audience declared he had never before seen so many women. His address on "The Christian Home" was earnest and thought-provoking. He said "Give me the sod shack of my mother where the Bible was read, instead of the finest of homes with a smut magazine."

Dr. N. M. Ylvisaker, speaking on "Lutheran Service Centers," gave us some astonishing figures. He told us that the Lutheran Church has done more than all other denominations combined for the boys in the service: there are twenty-six Centers and in our camp chapels a worship attendance of more than twenty-two millions. Lutherans have furnished 1,000 pastors who care



for the men in the service, and 6,000 more chaplains are needed. Lt. Col. Ylvisaker added, "It would have given the boys in the Solomon Islands courage and comfort to have heard their mothers sing the national anthem."

Rev. A. Walck presented the cause of Jewish Missions, and reminded us that there are four million Jews in the United States of America who need to be ministered to.

During the evening session devoted to Foreign Missions Dr. Chas. Muthaiya spoke in behalf of India, where he is chief of staff at our Renigunta Hospital. The doctor said the women of India were surprised that the women of America would build and support a hospital in India. He called attention to the fact that in all India there are only 1500 hospital beds, while Chicago alone has that many for tuberculosis patients. He asked us to "think of India in search of God."

Mrs. Emil Hannemann, on furlough from New Guinea, spoke very charmingly of the women and girls of that country; she told of the loneliness and the menace of snakes, but related also some pleasing customs and events. A hope for the future is a school for the girls of New Guinea.

The evening was enlivened by a group of India missionaries on furlough who "performed." Rev. H. W. Mayer sang a Telugu song of praise, accompanied by the castanet. Four of the women in Indian costumes sang our Song of Consecration in Telugu (as it is used by the women in India) and carried on a lively conversation in Telugu. Although none of the audience understood a word of it, we learned later that they were discussing American Styles.

Six of our New Guinea representatives gave very brief talks on their work; Rev. E. Hannemann demonstrated to us how native music in New Guinea sounds.

#### BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS

This biennium we carried on our work for the first time according to a budget presented by a Budget Committee and adopted by the convention. The following responsibilities were assumed in addition to our regular maintenance obligations:

A Revolving Chapel Loan Fund of \$15,000 for Colored Missions was adopted as the new project for Junior Mission Bands.

A contribution of \$2,000 was granted for the Union Christian Medical College for Women at Vellore, India, to be taken from Mother's Day Offering.

For the biennium a grant of \$11,000 was made to the Home Mission treasury of the Church for young women workers, to be paid from Thankoffering fund.

A gift of \$1,000 to the Dr. Carl Christian Hein Memorial Lecture Fund was voted.

A contribution of \$25,000 for the establishment of a Student Loan Foundation was voted for 1943-44. (See American Lutheran Church minutes for 1940, Art. II, p. 109)

A grant of \$25,000 was made in behalf of the Lutheran Student Fellowship of Michigan State College. The Executive Board of the Women's Missionary Federation was authorized to pay the same when and as advisable, in consultation with the Board of Trustees of the American Lutheran Church.

The sum of \$20,000 for the biennium was voted for the newly established Good Samaritan Fund.

It was voted to make available in 1944 or later the sum of \$30,000 for Pacific Lutheran College on condition that a) The Board of Regents furnish proof that sufficient funds are available from other sources to proceed with erection of a girls' dormitory costing not less than \$90,000; b) The Board of Trustees of the American Lutheran Church express as its judgment that the college has sufficient financial stability to assure its future.

A ceiling of \$75,000 was set for the Life Membership and Memorial Trust Fund. The income from this invested fund is to be used for missionary purposes only. Fees received for Life Memberships and Memorials over and above the \$75,000, after deducting a sum to cover expense of issuing same, shall be devoted directly to pre-approved projects, consistent with our purpose. At no time shall the deduction exceed one dollar per Life Membership or Memorial.

The sum of \$10,000 for the biennium was granted for Colored Mission chapels to be built at Birmingham, Anniston, Tuscaloosa, and Montgomery.

Standing Rule No. 2 was amended to read: "The position of General Secretary shall carry with it a salary of \$1200 per year."

Standing Rule No. 3 (An allowance of \$500 per year to the Chairman of Missionary Education) having been found impractical was stricken.

A change in Art. 8, sec. 5 of Federation By-Laws was voted, to be read a second time in 1944 and go into effect in 1946, as follows: "Each district, group, and society sending a delegate (to Federation conventions) shall pay one dollar registration fee. Visitors' fee for the entire convention shall be one dollar, or fifty cents for each day in attendance."

For expansion of Mexican mission work the sum of \$10,000 was voted from the Thankoffering fund to be available when plans have met approval of the Board of Trustees of the American Lutheran Church.

It was voted to establish a Deaconess Department, for the purpose of promoting and publicizing this noble service.

A motion carried to give \$10,000 to Lutheran Service Commission in preference to other appropriations. (Paid January 1943)

By vote of the convention, Tuesday and Wednesday offerings were given also to Lutheran Service Commission, a sum of \$563.09. The Thursday offering, \$259.39, was voted for the Zion Jewish Mission Society.

Resolutions of special interest were:

WHEREAS the establishment of the deaconess department came too late for the election, the chairman be appointed to serve until the next election. Mrs. L. F. Gast of Green Bay, Wisconsin was appointed to fill the position.

WHEREAS only a small proportion of women of the American Lutheran Church are affiliated with the Women's Missionary Federation, a committee be appointed to study the method used by some other denominations, by which every girl and woman is considered a member of the local women's society—thus automatically becoming a member of the federated organization.

Attention was called to the fine Thankoffering record of the Southern Indiana District (\$4.40 per member) and a resolution was passed that we show our gratitude for blessings received by trying to raise our general average above its present level of \$1.77. Thankoffering 1940, \$37,095; 1941, \$42,141.

A resolution of sincere appreciation for faithful services was extended to retiring officers: Mrs. R. Atzinger, subscription manager of *Women's Missionary Outlook*; Mrs. D. B. Kraybill, Missionary Education chairman; Mrs. Chas. H.

Osten, Thankoffering Chairman; Mrs. L. F. Gast, first vice-president; and Mrs. M. A. Meier, second vice-president.

### ELECTION RETURNS

President.....	Miss Katharine Lehmann, Columbus, Ohio
First Vice-President.....	Mrs. G. C. Gast, Columbus, Ohio
Second Vice-President.....	Mrs. E. G. Fritschel, Greeley, Colo.
General Secretary.....	Miss Martha Stellhorn, Columbus, Ohio
Financial Secretary.....	Mrs. Paul A. Adams, Youngstown, Ohio
Deaconess Chairman.....	Mrs. L. F. Gast, Green Bay, Wis.
Indian Women's Work.....	Mrs. C. Steinert, Defiance, Ohio
Junior Chairman.....	Mrs. J. Bodensieck, Dubuque, Iowa
Life Membership and Memorial.....	Mrs. Harold Hoge, Milwaukee, Wis.
Missionary Education Chairman.....	Mrs. C. H. Osten, Toledo, Ohio
New Guinea Commissary.....	Mrs. R. Taeuber, St. Paul, Minn.
Special Needs.....	Mrs. E. H. Blessin, Minneapolis, Minn.
Thankoffering Chairman.....	Mrs. C. N. Busse, Chicago, Ill.

Appointments by the Executive Board were:

Editor, <i>Outlook</i> .....	Mrs. A. L. Burman, Toledo, Ohio
Editor, Junior.....	Mrs. Oscar Tressel, Fremont, Ohio
Editor, Women's Pages, <i>Lutheran Standard</i> .....	Mrs. C. H. Herrnstein, Dola, Ohio
Editor, Women's Pages, <i>Kirchenblatt</i> .....	Mrs. Geo. Krueger, Clinton, Iowa
Subscription Manager, <i>Outlook</i> .....	Mrs. Geo. T. Ross, Bexley, Ohio
Treasurer.....	Mrs. Walter Lindemuth, Wheeling, W. Va.

### MISCELLANIES

In the fall of 1941 three classes were conducted at the Capital University Seminary in which the work of the Women's Missionary Federation was presented to the senior seminarians by the president of the Federation.

Since 1939, annual reports of the Federation work have been prepared for the President's Council of the American Lutheran Church, which your president attends by invitation; also this year one is to be included in the official reports of the Church.

"For the duration" we shall not be able to send Christmas boxes to New Guinea, nor medical supplies. Most of the men are at their posts in the Madang field, carrying on as usual. Mrs. Theo. Braun, Miss Klotzbuecher, and Miss Kroeger, the nurses, are still working at our Amele hospital. Wives and children are safe in Australia and the United States. Dr. Agnes Hoeger is in Australia, employed at the General Hospital, Bundaberg, Queensland.

No missionaries have been evacuated from our India field; should they be, the work can be carried on under Indian leadership. Those India missionaries who are here on furlough are not permitted to return to their work for an indefinite time. We are no longer able to ship the fine laces and embroidery from our Industrial School, due to war conditions.

Since the district conventions of 1941 nine new district presidents have appeared on our Executive Board. All are interested, intelligent, and adaptable.

Since the 1940 convention the Executive Board has made the following grants:



To the American Lutheran Church, \$2,000 for developing Visual Education.

To Mexican missions a regular contribution of \$1,000 per year from interest on Life Membership and Memorial Trust Fund instead of variable amounts as before.

To the American Bible Society \$500 for sending Bibles to army camps.

For partial support of eight missionaries' children in college, six from India, two from New Guinea \$1,000 per year.

For building purposes at San Juan, Texas, in Mexican mission field, \$1,000.

For a chapel at Renigunta, India, \$1,500.

These grants are over and above gifts voted at the Sandusky convention.

We take note of the increase in India Women's Work receipts, \$7,690.39 for a period of fifteen months. This makes possible more extensive mission work, for which we praise God. This department has acquired a new name: formerly known as the "India Lace Department" it is now called "Department of India Women's Work," and has had added to its responsibilities the support of the Bible Women's Training School at Tirupati.

The convention paused for a minute of silence in memory of a consecrated and devoted worker, Mrs. J. Sealing of Holland, Indiana, who died during the year 1940. Mrs. Sealing was at one time our Chairman of Special Needs. The Southern Indiana District will miss her sadly.

Our membership as reported is now 23,857, distributed among 764 societies, in 19 districts.

*Outlook* subscriptions for 1942, 22,754.

All departments show growth in receipts. May we grow as well in grace.

#### STILL AT WAR, 1943 AND 1944

"Prayer changes things" is a well-known saying. We can add, so does war change things. Travel restrictions imposed by the Government disrupted our schedule of meetings to some extent. It was a question as to whether or not the Women's Missionary Federation should hold its biennial meeting this year: but discussions and conferences resulted in a decision to go ahead, feeling that the Lord's work deserves a priority. Accordingly our eighth biennial convention was held Nov. 8-10, 1944, a day shorter than customary.

#### CONVENTION

Since the Morrison Hotel at Chicago had served us well in 1942 it was again chosen as convention headquarters. Lacking a host, committees were chosen from here and there. Program committee from the Columbus area, Mesdames J. Atzinger, A. Michelfelder, and E. Krebs; Committee of Arrangements Mrs. G. C. Gast of Columbus and Mrs. E. Kroening of Minneapolis with Mesdames Ferne, Sommerfeld, and Busse of Chicago area as advisors.

Under this capable leadership a streamlined convention was carried through. Dr. W. G. Sodt was liturgist for the opening session; district presidents offered the prayers; Mrs. N. E. Bretz again acted as accompanist, and her sister, Mrs. Edith Unger, led the singing. Beautiful special music was furnished by Miss Irene Kuzmio and a quintet of singers under Mrs. Unger's leadership. Theme for the convention was Evangelization, which the American Lutheran Church is emphasizing this year. Theme song, "In Christ There Is No East or West."

Rev. Milton Schramm, missionary to India and the American Lutheran Church faculty member at Rajahmundry Seminary of the United Lutheran Church, conducted several worship services that led us to new spiritual heights.

Letters of greeting were read, and Dr. Em. Poppen in person brought the thanks of the American Lutheran Church for our undergirding of the Church's work, encouraged us, and wished us God's blessing.

More time than usual was devoted to business, and but one address was provided for a session. Dr. H. F. Schuh, Director of Stewardship and Finance, American Lutheran Church, spoke on "Winning Souls for Christ" at the opening session on Wednesday evening saying, "The world needs Christ, the American Lutheran Church needs Christ." He urged us to make evangelization a personal matter.

At this session the new film on Deaconess work entitled "Consecration," was shown. The making of the film was financed by the Women's Missionary Federation.

In her message delivered on Thursday morning the President of the Women's Missionary Federation compared the Christian Church, a sleeping giant, to the three disciples who slept in the Garden of Gethsemane while our Lord agonized nearby. Our hope is that the giant may arouse to action, and use its strength to evangelize the world.

Reporting for the Committee on Growth Mrs. Em. Poppen suggested that all the women of the congregation be urged to form an organization to be known as the "Women of the Church," divided into circles, with free-will offerings substituted for dues.

Since the conditions connected with our proposed gift to Pacific Lutheran College have been fulfilled to the satisfaction of all concerned, Mrs. E. G. Fritschel, second vice-president, was appointed to attend the Golden Jubilee of the College at Parkland, Washington, and authorized to declare the gift of \$30,000 from the Federation. She reported that there are now twenty-five American Lutheran Church students at Pacific Lutheran College.

Mrs. G. C. Gast reported for the Committee on New Administrative Set-Up considered necessary by the Executive Board. The following changes embodied in the report were adopted: The offices of Financial Secretary and Treasurer are to be combined into one full-time office of Treasurer; the Federation office is to handle Department finances and *Outlook* subscriptions; the price of *Outlook* subscription is to be raised to 40c a year in quantities and 50c for single subscriptions, the raise to be effective after June 1, 1945.

On Thursday afternoon Mrs. E. G. Fritschel presided and introduced the speaker, Dr. Oscar Carlson, Director of Evangelism, United Lutheran Church of America, who spoke inspiringly on "The Meaning and Method of Evangelism." Rev. Harold Osterman put in an appeal in behalf of the coming drive for funds for our American Lutheran Church colleges.

Thursday evening session given over to Foreign Missions was opened by Rev. Oscar Smith, liturgist. Rev. Theo Fricke, the new Commissioner of Foreign Missions, American Lutheran Church, gave the address of the evening, reporting on his very interesting Latin American trip with Dr. F. Laubach, the "Apostle of Literacy," whom he considers one of the greatest missionaries in the world today. This seven months trip was by way of preparation for Rev. Fricke's planned journey to Australia, New Guinea, and India where he hopes to help

our missionaries meet their many problems, among them the problem of illiteracy on our foreign fields.

The one representative from India was Rev. Milton Schramm. Conditions on the India field are still the same: missionaries overworked, furloughs overdue, passage difficult to secure. Miss Gertruth Kettner and the H. W. Mayers are on their way back to the field; the Wilches, Nicholsons, and Miss Ruth Meyer are still here, their return indefinite. The M. Schramms reached the United States last May. Dr. Chas. Muthaiya, chief of staff at our Renigunta Hospital in India was with us at our last convention. He arrived in June, 1941 for a year's post-graduate study. His return was delayed by the war, and for a year he was employed as house surgeon in Bronx Hospital, New York. By April of this year, 1944, he was safely back at his post in India.

The missionaries from New Guinea presented at this session were Rev. and Mrs John Mager, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Mild, Mrs. Emil Hanneman, Mrs. Paul Fliehler, and Rev. John Haferman.

Our New Guinea mission field has met tragedy during the war. Seven of our missionaries who stayed on the field were martyred; four are missing; the rest, after suffering wounds, ill treatment, and internment, were rescued and returned to the United States of America and Australia. Theirs is a heart-breaking story of sacrifice, heroism, and faithful devotion. Our mission is in the hands of the native Christians, who are carrying on in the absence of the missionaries.

Dr. Agnes Hoeger, still in uniform, is in South America on some government mission.

Friday morning as usual was devoted to business. Election resulted as follows, with only two changes: Mrs. A. E. Bradow was elected Junior Chairman, succeeding Mrs. Bodensieck who resigned, and Miss Flora Bell appointed Treasurer, according to the newly adopted change in administrative set-up.

First Vice President.....	Mrs. G. C. Gast
Second Vice-President.....	Mrs. E. G. Fritschel
General Secretary.....	Miss Martha Stéllhorn
Financial Secretary.....	Mrs. Paul A. Adams
Thankoffering Chairman.....	Mrs. C. N. Busse
Missionary Education Chairman.....	Mrs. C. H. Osten
India Women's Work Chairman.....	Mrs. C. Steinert
Life Memberships and Memorials Chairman.....	Mrs. Harold Hoge
Special Needs Chairman.....	Mrs. E. H. Blessin
Junior Chairman.....	Mrs. A. E. Bradow
Deaconess Chairman.....	Mrs. L. F. Gast
New Guinea Commissary Chairman.....	Mrs. R. Taeuber

The following appointments were made:

<i>Outlook</i> Editor.....	Mrs. A. L. Burman
Our Juniors ( <i>Outlook</i> ) Editor.....	Mrs. Oscar Tressel
Editor Women's Pages of <i>Standard</i> .....	Mrs. C. H. Herrnstein
Editor Women's Pages of <i>Kirchenblatt</i> .....	Mrs. Geo. Krueger
Treasurer.....	Miss Flora Bell

Recognition of the fine services of Mrs. Bodensieck and Mrs. Lindemuth, who are retiring from office, was made by a rising vote of thanks.



The attendance slipped a bit from two years ago, but was good considering the disturbed conditions. Total number registered, 1,101, and every district was represented. The total offering, \$805.55 was voted for the American Bible Society.

An invitation to meet at Minneapolis in 1946 was accepted with sounds of approval.

After installation of officers and department chairmen by the president, and a most impressive closing service by Rev. Schramm, the convention came to a close.

#### RESOLUTIONS

Outstanding were these resolutions:

To memorialize our martyred New Guinea missionaries by a more fervent zeal for kingdom-building in our own hearts.

To pray God to guard and keep chaplains and service men and women; to comfort those who sorrow; and to grant the world a just and lasting peace.

To ask our societies to study the plan for Women of the Church recommended by the committee, adapting it to their own local needs.

To urge our women to follow the daily Bible readings outlined by the American Bible Society for use between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

#### FINANCES

The following responsibilities were assumed for the biennium:

To increase appropriations for Home Mission Workers from \$11,000 to \$15,000 per two years.

To increase from \$3,000 to \$4,000 per year for scholarships for Christian Social Service Workers.

To increase from \$1,000 to \$1,800 for Mexican Missions from Life Membership and Memorial Interest Fund, to include 1944, '45, and '46.

To give \$5,000 per year to Good Samaritan Fund during this biennium.

To grant: \$15,000 for a Parsonage Building Fund in Canada, to be paid in 1944.

\$1,000 for printing the Kurdish Bible History translated by Hannah Schonhovd.

\$5,000 for additional equipment in our India Hospital.

\$75,000 for a hospital in our New Guinea mission field.

\$150 annually for this biennium for nurse's training for Gladys Koschade in Australia.

\$1,000 to each of our two Seminary libraries for the purchase of books.

\$10,000 (maximum) annually for two years, for the preparation and distribution of Scriptures and Christian literature among the various mission fields, as requested by the Board of American Missions.

\$250 per year for two years to World Literacy and Christian Literature Committee of the Foreign Missions Conference.

\$4,800 for Seminary scholarships for a Mexican, a Negro, an American Indian, and a Jewish young man to cover three years' training, the first \$1,600 to be taken from *Outlook* fund.

\$2,000 to American Lutheran Church for Visual Aid.

\$100,000 to the Educational Appeal, directing that it be used thus: \$50,000 from Thankoffering for a Negro Training School, and \$50,000 from Life Membership and Memorial Current Fund for a Mexican Training School.

\$5,500 from Life Membership and Memorial Current Fund for the parsonage in San Antonio purchased for our Mexican Mission field.

\$3,000 a year from Mother's Day Offering for increased living costs for our three girls' schools in India, for 1944, '45, and '46.

\$100 for a projector and slides for use of Gertruth Kettner in India.

\$3,000 of the \$10,000 appropriated for Mexican Mission expansion by the Women's Missionary Federation in 1942 for school building and lots in East Donna.

\$9,000 (Junior Mission Bands) to buy a truck, automobile, and tractor for New Guinea field. (Suggested by the Junior Department Conference.)

A bit of arithmetic shows a total appropriation for the biennium of \$295,600, which is in addition to some current obligations, maintenance and the like. This is possible only because during the war years we were unable to do any building, which has given us an accumulation of funds. But we have grown somewhat in the grace of giving, a cause for gratitude. Our Thankoffering increases yearly: 1942 reached \$54,762, while 1943 went up to \$70,767. The remark of a man in response to our pleasure in the 1943 Thankoffering certainly offers us a challenge. He said: "You women could easily make it \$100,000." Shall we? Again the Southern Indiana district leads with an average of \$6.87 per member. The general average for the two years was \$2.19 and \$2.68 respectively. Shall this small district always set the pace for the rest of us?

Our Mother's Day offerings too are increasing. This is well, for a resolution was passed at this convention "That from the Mother's Day Offering the Women's Missionary Federation assume the support of all the women's work carried on in our India Mission field, exclusive of the beneficiary work." That will increase our obligations considerably.

Although the beautiful articles made at our Industrial School can no longer be shipped to the United States of America for sale, they are being sold in India as fast as they are produced, so our school is still serving its purpose, perhaps even better than before.

#### INTERESTING ITEMS

The Women's Missionary Federation now has 850 societies with a membership of 26,449.

Junior Mission Bands number 241, with over 7,000 boys and girls enrolled. The Department is now, as the Chairman says, "A lovely young woman," as it has reached the age of twenty-five years.

Life Membership and Memorial is expanding wonderfully, reporting average receipts of \$1,000 per month. In '43 the 5,000th Life Membership was received, also the 1,000th Memorial.

At this writing the *Outlook* has 26,160 subscribers on the list.

Every department of the Federation is growing and improving under the providence of God. For this we thank Him. Is it due partly at least to the steadily continued program of Missionary Education?

The Women's Missionary Federation has acquired an additional small room adjoining Federation Headquarters, which will serve as the president's office.

We appreciate the courtesy of the Publication Board which has made this possible at no advance in our rent. The need for this office was acute.

A "history-making" assembly was held in Columbus, Ohio, in February of this year. About 90 persons, members of all the Church boards and commissions together with representatives of the various organizations in the Church met to plan a coordinated program of evangelism throughout the American Lutheran Church. The Women's Missionary Federation had five representatives present, either by invitation or ex officio. The Home Mission workers we support; the Christian Social Workers' scholarships we provide; the Bible Women's Training School in India; our proposed financing of distribution of Christian literature; and financing the printing of a Kurdish Bible History, give us as a Federation a direct and active part in evangelization within the Church. We must augment this by personal work.

The Deaconess Department inaugurated two years ago is already effective.

The \$75,000 ceiling on the Life Membership and Memorial trust fund has been passed.

The Parsonage Building Fund has reached its completion, \$100,000.

Praise God, we are now looking forward to peace. Whether it comes to us or not, as Christians we have this comfort: "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee."

## THE BIENNIUM 1945 AND 1946

### NEWS ITEMS

At the time of our 1944 convention we were looking forward to a declaration of peace, which came during 1945. Since that time travel is more free, but not yet normal. Nevertheless, during these two years your president has been able to travel once more from coast to coast and from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico, visiting district conventions and covering 25,000 miles in the process.

In the spring of 1945 our pledge to Pacific Lutheran College was made good. The president of the W.M.F. had the pleasure of handing to the college treasurer a check for \$30,000 on the occasion of the college commencement. The gift was indeed appreciated.

The Central District was organized in 1945, a combination of the former Kansas City, Central Kansas, Nebraska, and Rocky Mountain districts, which now become Groups in the new district. Organization was carried out by Mrs. E. G. Fritschel, second vice-president. The new district president is Mrs. Geo. Obermeyer of Lenexa, Kans.

Also in 1945 your president held a session with the seminarians at Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque, Ia., to tell them about the work of the W.M.F., to answer questions, and to hold discussions with the students. Classes of this sort have been held at Capital Seminary in Columbus, O., for the past five years. These young men appreciate being briefed on the subject of women's work before taking charge of a parish.

In February, 1946, an appeal was made through the *Outlook* for diapers for destitute European babies and met with good response. The total number reported sent is 10,395.

In May, 1946, a long-desired tour of our Negro mission field was made possible for your president through the kindness of Supt. E. E. Krebs. All but the more remote missions were visited and our eyes were opened more than



ever to the need of chapels to replace the make-shift meeting places now used by our Negro brethren.

During the 1946 convention of the Women's Missionary Society of the United Lutheran Church at Johnstown, Pa., seven women (most of them national presidents) representing as many Lutheran synods met at the invitation of the Executive Board of the U.L.C.A. organization to discuss our national organizations, our relations to our synodical boards, our study programs, and so on. We found our ideals, our practices, and our problems are in the main, the same. Out of this fellowship came a resolution to hold at some later date an assembly of representatives from the women's groups of the Lutheran bodies that constitute the National Lutheran Council. We thoroughly enjoyed the get-together and look forward to another meeting.

Miss Frances Gauger joined our office staff in the spring of 1945.

The Secretary reports 594,389 pieces of literature sent out during the biennium. Activities of the Federation have doubled in ten years. Much larger contributions are asked this year for the American Bible Society and for World Literacy and Christian Literature. Our own fund for the preparation and distribution of Christian literature is being used more freely than before.

There are now 1,117 societies in the Federation, with a membership of 32,467. The 1,000th society to join was the American Lutheran Women's Missionary Society of Grand Junction, Colo.

We now have 297 Junior Mission Bands with 9,166 members.

Our Thankoffering Chairman has thrown out a challenge to "Make It a Million" (total Thankofferings) by 1947, our silver anniversary of the Department. The offerings are increasing: for 1944 we gave \$87,807.57; for 1945 the boxes yielded \$109,563.26. We have met the challenge to give \$100,000, put before us a couple years ago by a man; but we have not yet reached our full stature in giving. May God continue to give the increase, and to bless our gifts.

During this biennium we have to record the death of four women who played their parts in the history of our women's organization: Mrs. Carl Gast, former president of the California District; Mrs. Richard Atzinger, for eleven years subscription manager of the *Outlook*; Mrs. Wm. C. Moore, first Thankoffering chairman in the former Women's Missionary Conference; and Mrs. Edw. Pfeiffer, organizer of our first Junior Mission Band. We honor them for their service.

#### CONVENTION

And what shall we say of our ninth biennial convention? To many it was the best, the most inspiring of all our meetings to the present. We met Oct. 29 to Nov. 1, 1946, in beautiful Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, Minn., the largest Lutheran church in the country, belonging to the Evangelical Lutheran Church (Norwegian); we held a confessional and communion service one morning for 1200 women, with five pastors officiating; 1592 women registered, which does not account for all present. A showing of hands indicated that about one half of the women present were attending a Federation convention for the first time. The large attendance in itself was a thrill. On Thursday evening the church was filled to capacity, with some standing—an estimated 3,000 persons. The congregational membership of Central Lutheran is 3,600, served by three pastors, Dr. E. S. Hjortland senior pastor. We were fortunate

in being able to hold our convention in such hallowed surroundings. A mighty Austin organ, presided over by the skilled regular organist, thrilled us and attuned our hearts to the occasion.

The entertaining Minnesota District under its capable president Mrs. Emil Kroening had all arrangements so well under control that everything worked to perfection.

The program committee under the leadership of Miss Dorothy Haas, president of the Michigan District, produced a fine, well-balanced program on the theme "Me and Mine for God and Man." This theme was developed from day to day by Dr. T. F. Gullixson, president of Luther Theological Seminary, St. Paul, Minn. Much spiritual uplift came from these theme studies.

The theme song, appropriately, was "My God and I," and Mrs. Gerald Ferne's beautiful voice led us from height to height in the singing of this and other hymns. The prayers at various sessions were led by women from widespread districts. Greetings were brought by Dr. Poppen for the American Lutheran Church and by Pres. Welke of the Minnesota District. The friendly letters received from six Lutheran women's national organizations were embodied in the printed programs and included greetings from the newly organized Lutheran Women's Missionary League of the Missouri Synod.

In addition to solo numbers we had unusual help from the internationally known St. Olaf Choir of Northfield, Minn., and the Wartburg Seminary Octette of Dubuque, Ia. The music throughout the convention was rarely beautiful.

In her annual message the President called attention to the Church's emphases for several years. "Stewardship" in 1946 was defined as "The use of me and mine for God and man." The suggestion was made that the financial record of the W.M.F. would indicate the use of *mine* during the year just ending; and the 1947 emphasis on "Service" might well be considered the use of *me*, and made our goal for the coming year.

Dr. T. Fricke gave an interesting address on our New Guinea Mission and showed new moving pictures of the field portraying the utter destruction of the Mission. As he put it, "The Mission is gone, but the Church is there." Some fifty missionaries, not counting women and children, have now returned to rebuild the Mission. Among them are fifteen builders for short-time service and ten young men for a two-year term of work, on a subsistence basis.

Judge Luther Youngdahl, newly elected Governor of Minnesota, addressed the convention on the theme for the day, "My God and I in the Home." Among other challenging things he said "Today we need a revaluation of things: first things must come first, and we must start in the home. . . There is a freedom *from* religion rather than a freedom *in* religion."

Miss Phyllis Brandt, representing the Lutheran Student Association of Illinois, said: "Home should be physically a place to live in; socially, a place to have fun in; morally, a place to improve in; but there should be also spiritual security. Above all the home should be a shelter of love."

An address by Rev. G. A. Peterson, Supt. of Zion Society for Israel with offices in Minneapolis, brought again to mind the fact that we as a church body are doing nothing to bring the Gospel to the Jew.

Dr. C. Umhau Wolf, substituting for Dr. E. T. Bachman of Chicago Seminary in his address on "The Christian Woman and the American Scene"

put upon the Christian woman's shoulders responsibility toward America's political and economic life; her schools; and her spiritual life in the community.

Mrs. Theodore Speigner, teacher in our colored mission High School at Tuscaloosa, Ala., gained the sympathy of her audience as she plead for better educational advantages for her people.

Dr. Harold Yochum, President of Capital University, preached the convention sermon on the text "The Just shall live by faith." He described faith as "unconditional surrender to God," and spoke of the tragedy of half-surrender versus the glory of full surrender. This service was in honor of Reformation Day; and the singing of Luther's Battle Hymn and "My Church, My Church" by the vast audience together with the beautiful singing of the St. Olaf Choir truly glorified God.

#### VARIA

There were more foreign missionaries present than usual, ten in number. They were presented to the audience in a cleverly arranged television skit so not only was information given about our mission fields, but the speakers were visible as well.

Under the direction of Miss Dorothy Haas a unique presentation of the work of the departments was given. Each of the "Eight Eager, Enthusiastic Envoys" showed good reason why her department was most important of all; but since it would never do to have such dissension in the W.M.F. they concluded, speaking in unison, that the only way for them to speak is as one person. Each department needs the others, and together they must have a single purpose, to further the work of the Federation.

A fine gesture was made by the Federation when a gift of \$1,000 was presented to Miss Lehmann in appreciation of her twenty-five years of service as president of the former Women's Missionary Conference and of the Women's Missionary Federation. Through the courtesy of the five Groups of the Minnesota District a fresh corsage was presented to the President every morning, each more beautiful than the last.

A red-letter Bible was presented by the W.M.F. to a Chinese couple whose marriage was celebrated in Central Lutheran Church during the convention, furnishing a delightful interlude.

One of the resolutions adopted at this convention was: "To approve the calling of an assembly of representatives from the women's groups of the bodies constituting the National Lutheran Council not later than the fall of 1947 and to choose our representative at this convention."

In accordance with this resolution Mrs. G. C. Gast of Columbus, O., was elected to represent the W.M.F.

Among other resolutions adopted were these: "To pray that we, following the example of the Master, may become stepping stones into the kingdom of God and not stumbling blocks on the path of both Jew and Negro."

To pray for our missionaries and their work; for Dr. Fricke, that God may grant him a safe journey to India; and to extend greetings from the W.M.F. to our brethren in India.

To appoint a committee to draw up a constitution and by-laws for societies adopting the Women of the Church plan that will not conflict with the W.M.F. constitution in use so there may be uniformity.



# BUSINESS ITEMS

The subscription price of the *Women's Missionary Outlook* was raised to \$.65 for ten or more copies mailed to one address, \$.75 for single copies. The number now being mailed is 32,090.

Support of three New Guinea schools—for Chinese Children, for Native Girls, and for Missionaries' Children—was assumed by the Life Memberships and Memorials Department.

For Negro Missions the sum of \$50,000 was voted for chapels (this includes the \$10,000 appropriated in 1942); \$1,000 for Student Aid to Negro girls; \$5,700 for the parsonage and lot for St. Philip mission in Baltimore; and additional \$20,000 from T. O. for the Negro Training School, if needed.

The Junior Department appropriated as projects for the biennium \$700 student support for Theophilo Trevino, a Mexican boy who thinks of studying for the ministry; and \$1,500 to equip schools in our Mexican mission field. More projects are to be added.

An appropriation of \$2,000 was made to Visual Aid Fund for 1947-48; \$1,000 to the Lutheran Student Service for literature; and student support in the amount of \$750 per year to Paul Doermann to help him complete his course in medicine, preparatory to serving as medical missionary in our India hospital.

According to constitutional amendments adopted, the office of Financial Secretary is now combined with that of Treasurer; the Secretary is to serve without remuneration; the Treasurer is to be office supervisor, with a general staff commensurate with the needs of the work.

All contributions to Federation funds are to be routed directly to the Federation office by individual societies, receipts and reports to be mailed from the office. *Outlook* subscriptions are to be handled by the office staff.

By vote the convention offerings of Tuesday and Wednesday evenings were given to the Reconstruction Fund: amount, \$1,443.87. Thursday evening's offering of \$1,349.07 was given for Lutheran World Action.

The final session was devoted to business. Thanks and appreciation were expressed to these retiring Board members, who were remembered with corages. Those having served ten years or more received honoraria in addition.

First Vice President, Mrs. G. C. Gast.

Secretary, Miss Martha Stelhorn (10 years).

Fin. Sec'y, Mrs. Paul A. Adams (22 years).

Editor for *Lutheran Standard*, Mrs. C. H. Herrnstein (18 years).

L. M. and M. Chairman, Mrs. Harold Hoge (15 years).

Thankoffering Chairman, Mrs. C. N. Busse.

Newly elected officers and appointees were installed by the President as follows:

First Vice President.....	Miss Dorothy Haas, Ann Arbor, Mich.
Second Vice President.....	Mrs. E. G. Fritschel, Greeley, Colo.
Secretary.....	Miss Jane Reed, Dayton, O.
Deaconess Chairman.....	Mrs. L. F. Gast, Green Bay, Wis.
India Women's Work.....	Mrs. C. Steinert, Cleveland, O.
Life M. and Memorials.....	Mrs. H. V. Wilson, Los Angeles, Calif.
Junior Chairman.....	Mrs. A. E. Bradow, West Alexandria, O.
Missionary Education.....	Mrs. Charles Osten, Toledo, O.

New Guinea Commissary.....	Mrs. R. Taeuber, Columbus, O.
Special Needs Chairman.....	Mrs. E. H. Blessin, Minneapolis, Minn.
Thankoffering Chairman.....	Mrs. K. Weltner, Waverly, Iowa

#### APPOINTEES

Editor, <i>Outlook</i> .....	Mrs. A. L. Burman, Toledo, O.
Editor, Junior Dept., <i>Outlook</i> .....	Mrs. O. Tressel, Richmond, Ind.
Editor, Women's Dept. <i>Lutheran Standard</i> .....	Mrs. R. Kulow, Hubbard, O.
Editor, Women's Dept. <i>Kirchenblatt</i> .....	Mrs. Geo. Krueger, San Antonio, Tex.
Treasurer.....	Miss Flora Bell, Columbus, O.

The convention was brought to a fitting close, the service conducted by Rev. E. J. Cornils.

#### HAPPENINGS OF 1947-1948

January of 1947 brought sorrow to many hearts when Sister Catherine Dentzer, for many years Directing Sister of the Lutheran Deaconess Motherhouse in Milwaukee, was called to her eternal home. Her successor is Sister Nanca Schoen, known to many of us, and loved.

In April, 1947, the Alabama Group was organized in our Negro Mission field and became a part of the Ohio District. The Dakota District too was organized in that year with four Groups. Across the waters the women's missionary societies on our India Mission field organized a missionary federation after holding meetings for nine years. We welcome them all.

In the fall of 1947 Dr. R. Taeuber who for many years served as one of the Executive Secretaries of Foreign Missions resigned to reenter the ministry. His successor, Dr. T. Fricke, assumed entire responsibility for our two foreign fields after visiting and inspecting the work both in New Guinea and in India. The many interests of the W.M.F. in foreign missions are now under Dr. Fricke's supervision.

Since the merger the W.M.F. has been associating in various ways with other national Lutheran women's organizations. The meeting of seven national presidents at Johnstown in 1946 and negotiations entered into at that time led to a larger meeting at Minneapolis in the spring of 1948. Forty-two women representing the seven bodies of the National Lutheran Council held another so-called "experience meeting" which was to help us reach a better understanding of our common tasks through the National Lutheran Council, such as participation in Lutheran World Action, Lutheran World Relief, and so on. Our representatives at this meeting were Miss Lehmann, Mrs. Burman, Miss Bell, Mrs. G. C. Gast, Mrs. Kroening, Mrs. Osten, and Mrs. Bradow.

In March, 1948, the W.M.F. president was one of about fifty executives representing women's national missionary organizations of various denominations in the United States and Canada who were invited to hear and discuss the report of a study made by the World Council of Churches on the "Life and work of women in the Church." Women were present also from India, China, Liberia, and the Phillipine Islands to speak for the Younger Churches. The discussion culminated in a resolution asking that more work and responsibility be given to the women, in the World Council. Judging by the mental caliber of the participants the women are quite capable of carrying heavy responsibilities. This meeting at Greenwich, Conn., was intensely interesting and enlightening.

In 1948 three beautiful chapels were dedicated at Montgomery, Tuscaloosa, and Anniston, Alabama, bringing to fulfillment the hopes of many hearts for our Negro missions there. All properties on our Negro mission field in the South were put into good repair by a gift of \$10,000 from the W.M.F. (Executive Board action) and turned over to the congregations as their responsibility from here on, by the Commission on Negro Missions.

The Alabama Lutheran Bible Institute at Montgomery, for the training of Negro workers and pastors has gotten under way.

The Lutheran Bible School at San Juan, Tex., a training school for Mexican workers, was dedicated in the late summer of 1948 and is in operation, maintained by the Life Memberships and Memorials Department of the Federation.

In June, 1948, at the Capital University commencement, Sister Emma Lerch, for many years head of the Milwaukee Nurses' Training School, received the degree of Doctor of Laws largely through the efforts of our Executive Board. It is a well-deserved recognition.

The September, 1948 issue of the *Women's Missionary Outlook* contained the constitution for Women of the Church called for by resolution of the 1946 convention and adopted in 1948.

Early in 1948 Daisy Warner was added to the office staff at Headquarters, but by fall both she and Frances Gauger found it necessary to leave because of illness, personal and in the family. Mrs. Blanche Purnell and Dorothy Hafey took over their work.

Now that postwar conditions have made it possible to do some building, the Federation has been paying out large sums from accumulated savings. The New Guinea Hospital (No. 2), India Hospital expansion, Negro chapels, the L.B.S. at San Juan, Parsonage Building Fund, and the Lutheran Student Fellowship at Lansing, Mich., have benefitted by the situation. We shall not be able to continue our generosity on the same scale, much as we would like to do so. However, our Thankoffering increases from year to year. The 1946 offering was \$123,346, while in 1947 it reached \$146,304. We aspire to greater thankfulness: for while the sum total is larger, the average gift is slipping downward, although we have a larger membership and *so much* to be thankful for.

Our membership is now, in 1948, 42,024 women in 1232 societies. The Junior Department is proud to report 401 Junior Mission Bands made up of 12,635 boys and girls. The Juniors are following a fine course of study and are undertaking bigger and bigger missionary projects. Their annual Thank-offering has grown to exceed \$11,000.

The Life Memberships and Memorials Department is coming to the fore. Total Life Memberships now number 11,103, Memorials 1,730. The new department chairman, Mrs. H. V. Wilson, visited the Mexican mission field to acquaint herself with the work in Texas. The Lutheran Bible School at San Juan, voted as a project in 1944, for which \$50,000 was given to the Educational Appeal of 1945, proved to be more costly than estimated. By the time the building was finished an additional \$31,000 was needed, and paid.

During the war years no Christmas Cheer could be sent to New Guinea and not until 1947 could shipping be fully resumed. In 1946 some trial boxes, forty-four, were sent out and when these went through, slowly but surely the way was opened for the 227 boxes prepared in 1947. What joy they brought to the missionaries, who on returning to the field found next to nothing there. A



change of procedure was made necessary by Customs requirements: Private packages are no longer to be shipped in Christmas Cheer boxes, but sent separately.

The scope of the Deaconess Department was enlarged "to include promotion of and interest in all types of church work for women." The name was changed to Department of Christian Service.

#### CONVENTION

After Minneapolis no invitation was received for the tenth biennial convention. Accordingly, with the approval of the Executive Board it was decided to meet in Columbus, headquarters of the Women's Missionary Federation and the American Lutheran Church, as well as the home of Capital University and the Wartburg Press.

Mrs. G. C. Gast's talents were again used as convention manager, and Mrs. H. F. Schuh made an excellent program chairman. The resulting convention was, to quote the *Outlook*, "Truly a masterpiece. In arrangement and content, all was near perfect." Columbus has no church large enough to accommodate a W.M.F. convention, so it was held at Memorial Hall, no longer a beautiful building, but adequate.

On the platform racial tolerance was in evidence for there appeared a Negress, a Mexican, an American Indian, an East Indian, a Finn, and a German, in addition to the composite American.

Mrs. H. F. Schuh, president of the Ohio District, welcomed the convention in a neat speech responded to by Miss Dorothy Haas, first vice-president. After Dr. H. Yochum, president of Capital University, opened the convention, the theme, "Christian Citizenship," was introduced by Dr. Carl Reuss, Dean of Men at Wartburg College, Waverly, Ia.

The Theme Song, "America, Arise," the words of which were written by one of our own women, Mrs. Olive Weaver Ridenour, fitted well into the spirit of the convention theme.

Greetings came from Dr. Em. Poppen for the American Lutheran Church; from Mrs. Alice Wilborn for the new Alabama Group; messages were received from Dr. and Mrs. E. H. Meuser for the Home Mission work in Miami, Fla.; from Mr. Kenneth Priebe for the Youth of the Church; from G. Katherine, president of the "Strila Samajh" (the women's missionary organization on our India field) for the newly organized group; and from the Southern California Group, with an invitation to hold the 1950 convention in California.

In her message the W.M.F. President called for clean politics befitting those whose citizenship is in heaven, and pointed out the need for Christian leadership.

American Missions were presented by Rev. Conrad Hoyer (Jews), Rev. E. E. Krebs (Negroes), Mrs. A. H. Koehler (Mexicans), and Mrs. F. P. Frazier for her own people, the American Indians.

During the business session the convention voted to "Signify to the American Lutheran Church and the National Lutheran Council our readiness to support one missionary to the American Indian."

Foreign Missions were interestingly reviewed in questions and answers by Dr. T. Fricke, Foreign Mission Executive Secretary, and our two veteran missionaries Drs. C. W. Oberdorfer and C. Schwan, who were, happily, on furlough from India at the time. Dr. Fricke introduced Mr. N. William, head-

master of the Pfeiffer Memorial High School at Renigunta, and its first son to come to America. Mr. William will study for a short time in the U.S.A., then return to India. He extended profuse thanks and greetings from his people.

Under the subtopics Christian Citizenship Demands 1) Allegiance to God, 2) National Conscience, 3) A World Outlook, the main addresses were given by Dr. Oscar Blackwelder, U.L.C.A. pastor of Washington, D.C.; Dr. Harold Grimm, former member of Capital University faculty, now professor of History at Ohio State; Dr. Paul Empie, Executive Director of National Lutheran Council; and Dr. and Mrs. J. Bodensieck. The Bodensiecks are serving in Germany as representatives of the N.L.C.: Dr. Bodensieck as United States Protestant Liaison, Mrs. Bodensieck giving spiritual ministry to displaced persons and refugees in Germany.

Dr. Empie at the close of his heart-stirring message introduced Dr. Antoine Nopitsch of Bavaria, who is visiting the U.S.A. in behalf of her work. Dr. Nopitsch is director of the Mutterdienst, a service agency for tired, exhausted mothers of Germany which gives both material and spiritual help to these poor, despairing war refugees who are our Lutheran sisters. Her address struck deeply into the hearts of her audience. Part of our contribution to Lutheran World Action was directed to this work by the N.L.C.

Youth had its place on the program, with a meditation by a seminarian, music by a High School chorus, and an address by a young woman, Miss Margareta Neovius of Finland (a 96 per cent Lutheran country) who is serving a year with the Lutheran Student Service Commission in this country.

Space is too limited to detail the fine points of this wonderful program. Such things must be heard to be appreciated. The addresses alone were a liberal education, and delightful.

And the music—ah yes! with Miss Martha Stelhorn at the organ and Mrs. T. Fricke directing, the hymns were sung with vigor and beauty. Capital University gave generously of its talent: faculty members of the Music Conservatory, the renowned Chapel Choir, Men's Glee Club, Girls' Chorus, and the Symphony Orchestra gave of their best, which is exceeding good. The climax was a number in which the four organizations, numbering about 200 persons, combined to give a magnificent rendition of "Regina Coeli" from *Cavalleria Rusticana*. We are indeed grateful to directors Ellis Snyder and Wilbur Crist for arranging this musical treat for us.

A unique feature on the program was the "Animated Outlook" written by Mrs. A. E. Bradow. A large box was built to represent the *Outlook*, the front of which was a beautiful reproduction of the October cover. Mrs. T. Stelhorn of Sandusky opened the "Outlook" and the Editor-in-Chief stepped out to be presented. She then turned the cover-page for presentation of the various department chairmen each of which was followed by a brief dramatization of the department's work. Very effective, and thoroughly enjoyed.

Seminary professors, editors, and our own women contributed to the unity of the whole program with prayers, meditations, and liturgy.

## BUSINESS

The closing session of the convention was devoted to business. A large budget was adopted for the next two years. Some of the outstanding new items are as follows: \$100,000 to the Educational Appeal; \$15,000 for a home for

the Director of Mexican missions; \$50,000 for Parsonage Building Fund; New Guinea Health Station \$11,000; New Guinea medical work, \$40,000; New Guinea Hospital \$50,000 (balance); hospital expansion, India, \$35,000 (balance); Lutheran World Action \$50,000. In addition are regular maintenance appropriations and hosts of lesser items; but, God helping us, we shall continue our record of finishing all that we undertake.

Due to the growth of the Federation and its attendant larger operating costs, both as to personnel and greatly increased cost of materials, postage and the like, a recommendation was made by the Board to raise the capitation fee to 65 cents, 50 cents to remain in the Federation treasury, 15 cents to revert to the districts. Action on this will be taken at the 1950 convention. The Federation has existed up to this time on a 25 cent fee, but that is no longer possible.

In 1948 the President's term of office expired, and Miss Lehmann had expressed her intention and desire to retire. However, owing to failure to secure a candidate to succeed her, and due to a recommendation to study a new administrative set-up, the present incumbent agreed to serve for another two years while the study is being made.

The office of President Emeritus was established at a salary of \$1,500, in appreciation of President Lehmann's long service, to become effective upon her retirement. Certain duties were assigned to the office, connected with the work of the Literature Committee.

There were but two changes in the official family. Mrs. Hoge was elected chairman of Christian Service Department to follow Mrs. L. F. Gast, whose service for many years, first as vice-president and later as Deaconess chairman was recognized. Miss Hedwig Moehl was appointed by the Executive Board to succeed Mrs. G. W. Krueger, whose resignation as editor of the Women's Department in the *Kirchenblatt* was accepted with regret.

The number of registrations at this convention far outstripped all former reports. 2,467 were accounted for but Memorial Hall with a capacity of over 3,000 was completely filled at the evening sessions.

Offerings totalled \$2,645.24, which was divided equally between Christian Approach to the Jews and Lutheran World Relief.

The convention accepted the invitation of the California District to meet at Long Beach in 1950.

Since two invitations had been received, it was thought only courteous to accept both. The 1952 convention will be held in Milwaukee, on the invitation of the Wisconsin District. We are grateful for these evidences of hospitality.

Dr. J. W. Schillinger, Ohio District president, closed the convention formally.

## ALMOST TWENTY YEARS OLD—1949-1950

### FOREIGN MISSIONARIES, W.M.F.

The Women's Missionary Federation experiences many changes in two years' time, one of them brought about by the shifting of our missionaries, who come and go.

In 1949 Gertruth Kettner was on furlough and we are proud to announce that while here she completed her course at Biblical Seminary in New York city, winning the degree of Master of Religious Education. She returned to India in June, 1950.



Ruth Eberle, R.N., ended an enforced long furlough in June, 1950, flying back to her post in India as nursing superintendent at our Renigunta Hospital. She enjoyed a period of study at Johns Hopkins hospital while at home.

Dorothy Meyer, a new missionary, after study at Biblical Seminary sailed for India in the fall of 1950 to join our staff of Bible women. On the same boat were Mr. and Mrs. Willis Nye and daughter Susan. Mr. Nye will be business manager for our India field, serving the hospital as well as other areas. The Federation assumes one-half of his support.

Lillian Lange came on her first furlough in the spring of 1950 leaving Effie Corniels to take her place in charge of Bible women's work in part of the field. Lillian too will study at Biblical Seminary.

Our missionary staff is not permanent: Cupid has been at work. Ruth Meyer, who served our field for many years as teacher and Bible woman, married Rev. Wilfred Scopes in 1949. Ellen Doermann went to India in 1949 and was in charge of nursing at Renigunta during Ruth Eberle's furlough. She came home in the spring of 1950 and was married to Rev. Sigmund Hillmer in June. Both brides are serving as pastors' wives, one in India, the other in Wisconsin, U.S.A.

In addition to the young women named, the Federation supports Margaret Stahl, principal of Sheatsley Memorial School for Girls, at Gudur, where more than 400 girls are enrolled, from nursery grade through high school.

At Nayudupet is Mildred Monke, director of our Industrial School where over eighty girls are taught through fifth grade and learn lace making and embroidery along with cooking, hygiene and the like.

The W.M.F. has always had a deep interest in medical missions and is glad to see the work expand. The hospital at Renigunta has long outgrown its quarters and is now in process of expanding to 120 beds, twice its former capacity. Since 1938 the hospital has been staffed by Indian doctors and nurses with the exception of Ruth Eberle. It is under missionary supervision.

We regret to record that in May, 1949, Dr. C. Muthaiya's wife, a radiant Christian woman, went to her eternal home. She was a great help to her husband. Our sympathy goes to the Doctor who has been our chief of staff for years.

Our Juniors' gift of \$6,000 for the Leprosy hospital at Kodur is being put to use for much-needed new buildings.

On the New Guinea field Gladys Koschade, a protege of the Federation, is serving as a nurse. Alta Madden, also a nurse, went to the field in January, 1950. Just how many nurses and doctors we support in New Guinea is difficult to say, but we estimate six or seven. We give a stated sum each year for the medical program there. Dr. Theo. Braun is chief of staff at Madang. The new hospital at Jagaum, in the Madang area, dedicated July 23, 1950, serves also as a training school for native young men and women as medical aides. Dr. Agnes Hoeger is in charge of the Finschhafen hospital, which is supported by Lutheran World Action.

Both of our hospitals are well staffed, modern, and well equipped, including X-ray machines.

Mrs. Theodore Radke who teaches the children of the Chinese colony at Madang; Mrs. Adele Welsch, in charge of over sixty girls in the School for Native Girls; and Eloise Miller and Vida Whitehead, who teach the mission-

aries' children, are W.M.F. missionaries. (Supported by L. M. and M. Department.)

### VISUAL AID

There has been a constant demand for movies and slides portraying the work done on our mission fields. The W.M.F. has used of its Visual Aid Fund to supply cameras, films, and projectors which our missionaries have put to good use. At present there are listed seven sets of excellent kodachrome slides on India, prepared by Mildred Monke, Gertruth Kettner, Dr. Fricke, and missionaries Herbert Schaefer and William Oberdorfer. Missionaries Clarence Wegenast and Arnold Maahs, Dr. Fricke and Dr. F. Laubach's son have made five sets of color slides on our rebuilt New Guinea field. All are well done and we are grateful for this fine material. Rev. C. Weishaupt who came into the Foreign Missions office in 1950 has had a busy time editing and arranging the sets of slides.

Movies, hard for amateurs to make and too costly if professionally done, are still in the future for us, but some of a general nature are available for rental.

There are a few sets of slides to be had on American missions also, but the field is practically untouched. Flannelgraphs and sets of colored pictures have been furnished at home and abroad.

### DEPARTMENTAL DOINGS

During 1949 and 1950 the Special Needs Department used the pages of the *Outlook* to describe the various institutions of mercy of the American Lutheran Church and to tell of their needs. The idea is good. A new ruling adopted at the 1948 convention for this department has been in force during this biennium: "All cash gifts for individuals (except missionaries) from societies are to be sent directly to Federation Headquarters in order to arrive at a more equitable distribution." This "Christmas Fund" is administered by the Board of Pensions of the A.L.C. The plan has been found workable. Other gifts are handled as before, and amount to thousands of dollars a year.

It is likely that comparatively few of our women realize what our Thank-offering Department has done for the work of the Lord. It is our main source of income; nearly all our big projects have been financed by this freewill offering. The Thankoffering built and maintains our mission hospitals; provided the girls' dormitory (Federation Hall) at Luther College, Regina, Canada; it helped to build the girls' dormitory at Pacific Lutheran College in Parkland, Wash., where more than 125 A.L.C. students are enrolled; built nearly all buildings on our Mexican mission field; built chapels and bought parsonages for our Negro missions; helped Lutheran World Action; pays our missionaries' travel expense; provided most of the Student Loan Foundation; is building up the Parsonage Building Loan Fund, now \$165,000; supports three Home Mission workers; keeps up the Good Samaritan Fund; has twice given to the Educational Appeals of the Church, first \$50,000 then \$100,000; has pledged two "Home Mission Packages" for another \$111,110; and is paying the greater part of the cost of building the "Katharine Lehmann Memorial School and Rest Station" at Wau, New Guinea. Thousands more were used for smaller purposes, too numerous to name. This merely shows the power of united effort. Not one

woman in the Federation has been impoverished by her giving to Thank-offering. Our last average was a little less than a penny a day. Some give much more than that: but what of those who do less, or nothing? They *are* impoverished, spiritually.

The India Women's Work Department is supporting all work for women on our India field: the Industrial School, the Sheatsley Memorial School, and Bible Women's Training School, as well as the Bible women's work. The cost of keeping up all these schools has been steadily rising along with the rising cost of living in our own country, only worse; but our women have rallied nobly to the cause and met all needs. Our 1949 Mother's Day offering topped \$34,000.

We have always felt that our Missionary Education Department has been largely responsible for the continued interest and enthusiasm of our members. Missionary books, study classes, missionary programs and miscellaneous leaflets, information about our own work and that of the Church at large, missionary conventions—all combine to train Federation women along missionary lines.

Our Women's Department in the *Lutheran Standard* and *Kirchenblatt* are ably edited and give food for thought. Our *Women's Missionary Outlook* has been a powerful educational factor. The magazine has developed from a small, plain-looking pamphlet to a 36-page publication (on special occasions it may have 48 to 66 pages) with attractive colored cover pages. Our magazine has been self-sustaining from its beginning. Years ago some of the men said "It can't be done," but we did it. For twenty-five years the editor has been Mrs. A. L. Burman, who has grown editorially with the *Outlook*. A new feature was added in 1950, the "President's Page." It furnishes a fine medium for contact between the president and the Federation.

For the 1950 World Day of Prayer the *Outlook* promoted an intersynodical Lenten project called "Lamps of Love." Our Lutheran women were asked to bring to the prayer service packages of sewing material of all sorts wrapped in a length of cloth suitable for use, these to be sent to Europe. An early, therefore incomplete report from Lutheran World Relief stated that 10,906 such packages had arrived and were deeply appreciated.

A word of appreciation is due the vice-presidents of the W.M.F. who have been in charge of Extension Work. Through districts and groups the vice-presidents have been made responsible for adding new societies. In recent years the growth has been very good.

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#### MISCELLANIES

It is interesting to note the spread of Dr. Frank Laubach's adult literacy campaign. Our missionaries on both fields are using his method, and Dr. Laubach in person conducted the campaign on our New Guinea field, where the natives came by thousands to learn and "each one teach one." What a blessing for these people to be able to read the simple Christian literature provided for them, and eventually the Book of books!

In the fall of 1950 another call came to all women of the National Lutheran Council for emergency aid to Mutterdienst in Germany. It became necessary to purchase a building for this cause, presented to us so vividly in 1948 by



Dr. A. Nopitsch. Our share, \$5,000, was gathered and paid by the end of the year.

All items on our heavy budget for 1949-50 were paid except our pledge to the Parsonage Building Fund, which was deferred in favor of Home Mission Packages.

Because of the increased amount of work in the office Mrs. Martha Schultz was added to the staff early in 1949 as special assistant to the Treasurer who was being overworked.

New features coming more and more into use in our work are, the district newspaper or bulletin, and the workshop or clinic, which if properly used is a real educational help.

A legacy of \$1,000 was received by the W.M.F. in 1950 from A. Christine Grasser. This is a rare occurrence and the gift is deeply appreciated. God bless the memory of the donor.

Many new faces have been added to the Executive Board in these two years: seven district presidents, two officers, and five department chairmen made their debut. Four Board members have served since the merger in 1931, some in different offices.

#### THE ELEVENTH BIENNIAL CONVENTION

October 24-27, 1950

Something new and untried was the idea of a Federation convention in far-off California. The idea was received with considerable skepticism by some, but to the surprise of all, it went over in a big way. The Executive Board went ahead to Long Beach in a special car filled to capacity. The seventeen-car Union Pacific special train out of Chicago carried about 400 women, while some drove, others went by other train routes, a few flew. All arrived in good spirits and full of enthusiasm.

We have the genial tour conductor Mr. Elmer Young and his two aides to thank for a delightful and extremely well-conducted trip. After the convention the "W.M.F. Special" took us to Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, and Portland (we had Salt Lake City on the way out) where we had ample time to enjoy nearby points of interest.

At Long Beach every woman received an orange; at Seattle our welcoming Lutheran friends passed out "Red Delicious" apples; at Portland where the whole group of 400 was welcomed with a very appropriate short service and a tea, the famed Portland roses were distributed.

Devotional services were held daily on the train.

California hospitality was at its best. The women of the California District spared neither time, effort, nor expense to give us a memorable convention. Women were quartered in hotels on or near the ocean front. The convention was held in the Municipal Auditorium, admirably adapted to our needs.

"American Missions" was the subject that focused our attention throughout the days of convention. The theme "I am Debtor," was developed under the divisions "I am debtor to the Americas" by Rev. R. D. Lechleitner, Executive Secretary of American Missions; "Debtor to the Negro," by Miss Thelma Tollefson, Home Mission worker among the Negroes; "Debtor to the Jew" was the subject for Miss Emma Larson, Missionary to the Jews for the N.L.C.; "Debtor to the Mexican" was presented by Rev. O. Salge, missionary on our

Mexican mission field; "Debtor to my Children" and "Debtor to the Displaced Person" were treated by Rev. G. Falde of the E.L.C. and Dr. Fred Smith, of the N.L.C. Dr. C. Koosman, California District president, spoke on "Debtor to the People of the Southwest"; Dr. Walter Montano, whose life story is told in the book "The Monk Who Lived Again" told how deeply he is "Debtor to Latin America"; and Rev. Robert Rieke, a Seattle pastor closed the series when he spoke on "Debtor to the Man Next Door." American Missions was presented from every angle.

Rev. Theodore Hax led the Bible studies on the theme. Known in the East as well as in the West, Rev. Hax is a leader of reputation in the field of Bible study.

Mrs. Caroline Koch, gifted wife of Rev. Henry Koch of Long Beach, presided at the organ for hymn singing and gave us a masterly organ recital one evening before the session. The musical numbers throughout the convention were of a high order, given by musical organizations, choirs, and choruses of Long Beach.

An up-to-date number on the program was "The Federation in Action," a "television" presentation of all the work of the Federation by the Executive Board. Practically unrehearsed and partly impromptu, it was nevertheless well received. This was a revelation to the audience, many of whom were amazed at the scope of our work.

Department conferences were held in small rooms off of the Auditorium corridors.

On Thursday the women convened in Our Savior's Church (E.L.C.), Rev. A. M. Nelson pastor. Miss Lillian Lange, the only one of our foreign missionaries present, dressed in a beautiful sari (the Indian woman's dress) in her charming way spoke of conditions in India and extended greetings from the Christians on our field.

Rev. Hax's theme study took the form of a sermon on this day, after which about 1100 women partook of Holy Communion, four California pastors officiating.

The one social event of the days was the banquet on Thursday evening in honor of the retiring president, Dr. Katharine Lehmann. The Marine Room of the Wilton Hotel was crowded with approximately 850 delegates and visitors. Appointments were in excellent taste. The program included toasts, and greetings from the women of the E.L.C. Federation, and from the India field accompanied by the presentation of a beautiful garland of white carnations to the guest of honor by Lillian Lange.

The sixteen district presidents or alternates, each with a lovely and appropriate verse presented to the retiring president a red rose, to the stem of which was tied a gift of \$10.00. Miss Dorothy Haas, the toastmistress, tied the sixteen roses together with a beautiful ribbon, signifying the unity of the Women's Missionary Federation. The President wore a lovely corsage of baby orchids, the gift of the Columbus Group of the Ohio District, of which she is a member. Flowers surrounded her during all her stay; and there were many other loving attentions paid to her for which words were inadequate to express her appreciation. She could only say "God bless you, everyone!"

Mrs. Burman, editor of the *Outlook* for twenty-five years, also had her emotions stirred. The California committee by its chairman Mrs. Lee Tollefson, with a complimentary speech and a kiss on each cheek placed about her neck a lei of delicate pink carnations, flown in from Hawaii. Later on, Mrs. Burman was again surprised by a gift from the W.M.F. in the shape of a travelling bag containing a beautiful scarf. This followed formal congratulations on her completing twenty-five years of service, extended by the President in behalf of the Federation.

Retiring officers and department chairmen also were called to the front to receive thanks for their faithful services, a corsage, and a cash bonus stepped up according to their years in office (ten years or more). Those retiring were: President K. Lehmann, 1st Vice-President Dorothy Haas, 2nd Vice-President Mrs. E. G. Fritschel, I.W.W. Chairman Mrs. C. Steinert, L.M. & M. Chairman Mrs. H. V. Wilson, New Guinea Commissary Mrs. R. Taeuber, Special Needs Mrs. E. H. Blessin, Thankoffering Mrs. K. Weltner. Never before in our history has there been such an exodus of Board members.

A resolution of sincere thanks was passed to the women of the California District who made this fine meeting possible. Surely every woman carried home with her pleasant memories of new friendships and Christian fellowship.

#### BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Board's recommendation to the 1948 convention regarding the increase of the capitation fee to 65 cents was brought to the delegates for the decisive vote and carried without argument.

The proposal for a new administrative set-up was defeated so we continue with a full-time president instead of an executive secretary and a non-salaried president, as had been suggested. This failed to carry largely because of the prospect of a merger with the Evangelical Lutheran Church (Norwegian) and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church (Danish) within a few years.

New recommendations which were passed are these: "A committee of three shall be appointed to start correspondence and communication with committees from the UELC and ELC to study plans for merger." "The present chairman of the Board shall appoint this committee." (Committee appointed: Miss Dorothy Haas, Miss Flora Bell, Miss K. Lehmann, Chairman.)

"The Women's Missionary Federation shall send a delegate to the Lutheran World Federation meeting in Germany in 1952 and that delegate shall be Dr. K. Lehmann, or alternate Mrs. E. G. Fritschel."

The convention voted: That Social Security is to be provided for the W.M.F. office personnel; that the \$4,000 balance of the Juniors' Text Book Loan Fund for the Negro field be used to pay for Parish Workers in that field; that the Juniors build the children's wards in the New Guinea and the India hospitals, the amounts to be \$10,000 and \$15,000 respectively; that the Juniors provide \$300 for reading books to be given to new Junior Mission Bands organized in each new mission, at \$10.00 for a Band; and \$5,000 for the initial order of Sunday school and church hymnals for the thirty-six new missions planned under the Home Mission Advance.

A tidy sum for the children to give, but they will do it, in two years. Watch them grow!



Further actions voted: That from the accumulated interest on L.M.&M. Trust Fund a special gift of \$2,000 be given to Mexican missions.

That we finance the balance of the cost of building the Missionaries' Children's School and Rest Station in New Guinea for an added \$65,000, making it a 100 per cent W.M.F. project. (\$11,000 has already been paid toward the building and \$15,000 by the Juniors for furnishings.) The sum is to be divided, \$40,000 from Thankoffering, \$25,000 from the L.M.&M. Furthermore, that the name be "The Katharine Lehmann Memorial School and Health Station."

That we give \$2,000 to Vellore Christian Medical College; \$6,000 to the American Bible Society; \$10,000 to the Good Samaritan Fund.

That the balance of \$2,400 remaining in Seminary Scholarship fund be transferred to those in need of it at present, namely the Negro and the Mexican. In the event we find a Jew or an American Indian to use the scholarships, that new appropriations be made.

That the appropriation of \$70,000 made for Lutheran Bible Institute in Montgomery, Ala., be reduced to \$50,000 of which a part has been used, leaving a balance of \$24,721 which seems enough to meet future needs.

That we grant \$300 for twelve scholarships for Negro high school scholarships, at \$25.00 each, to help accomplish our mission purpose in this field.

That since 1951 is Home Mission Advance year, we grant the appeal for \$111,110, the cost of two "mission packages."

#### ELECTION RESULTS

President.....	Miss Dorothy Haas, Michigan
First Vice President.....	Mrs. Lee Tollefson, California
Second Vice President.....	Mrs. W. J. Ferne, Illinois
Secretary.....	Miss Jane Reed, Ohio
Christian Service.....	Mrs. H. Hoge, Wisconsin
Junior.....	Mrs. A. E. Bradow, Ohio
Missionary Education.....	Mrs. Ella Osten, Ohio
India Women's Work.....	Mrs. Harold Kettner, Iowa
Life Memberships and Memorials.....	Mrs. Oscar Mees, California
New Guinea Commissary.....	Mrs. F. J. Yetmar, California
Special Needs.....	Mrs. James Long, Maryland
Thankoffering.....	Mrs. Leonard Kutz, Oregon

The appointees remain the same, editors and treasurer.

After the installation of officers by President Lehmann the convention was properly closed by Rev. R. D. Lechleitner.

The attendance at evening sessions of the convention far outstripped the registration, which was 1426. Among the visitors were eighty men. The total offering was \$3,121.49, divided as follows:

Dr. Montano's work .....	\$ 500.00
Home Missions .....	1,260.74
Lutheran World Action .....	926.13
Mutterdienst at Stein .....	334.62

## CONCLUSION

A few figures may be found of interest in summing up the harvest of the Federation's twenty years of activity, since May, 1931, to December, 1950.

The Junior Department has grown from 4,620 boys and girls to 15,940, while their Thankoffering boxes have yielded a total of \$72,664 for missions.

Starting with a membership of 16,350, at the close of 1950 the Women's Missionary Federation numbers 48,550.

In 1931 we were printing 12,000 *Outlooks*, now we use an edition of 38,500 copies.

We have 18,707 Life Members; 2,392 Memorials; 759 Honorary Life Members (men). This department has established a Trust Fund of \$75,000, the interest given to Mexican missions. The ceiling was passed six years ago; since then the Current Fund has supplied \$105,699 for missions in Mexican and New Guinea fields.

India Women's Work offerings have increased from \$2,800 to \$39,997.

Our first Thankoffering was \$18,122; our latest, 1950, was \$168,349.

Other departments are not easily evaluated in terms of dollars; but we know of their growth and their value by experience, by their effect on our women.

In these twenty years the Federation has given for benevolence \$1,641,727.00, the offering of the women of the Church to the Lord's work.

Up to the second decade of the twentieth century the women who are in the American Lutheran Church were inconspicuous except for the large part they played as teachers in Sunday schools and week-day schools. With the organization of missionary groups they began to emerge from their place in the background until now they are a power in the Church. Their help has made a vast difference in the mission work on both foreign fields, and the development in Negro and Mexican missions is due, under God, to their financial backing. Whether it be at home or abroad, whether it be for charity, Christian education, evangelism, or other phases of the Master's work, may our gifts always be given to the glory of God, in a spirit of humble thankfulness for the redemption offered to all through our Lord Jesus Christ. "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." I Sam. 7:12





